FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 68 *7 April 1978*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Joint Forces Issues Statement on Clash With Israelis [VOP]	A 1	1/A6
Kuwaiti Paper Reports Details of Arab League Session [AS-SIYASAH 2 Apr 78]	A 1	1/A6
Arab League's Riyad Interviewed by Amman Paper [AD-DUSTUR 7 Apr 78]	A 2	1/A7
PLO Representative Carries 'Arafat Message to UAE	A 3	1/A8
Fatah Official Meets With Cuban Ambassador in Beirut [VOP]	A 3	1/A8
Palestinian-Syrian Coordination Committee Meets [VOP]	A 3	1/A8
Habash Makes Statement to INA on Visit to Iraq	A 4	1/A9
Arab Petroleum Workers Federation Meets in Tripoli	A 4	1/A9
Three Subcommittees Set Up	A 4	1/A9
INA Reports Fedayeen Operation in Jerusalem	A 5	1/A10
Damascus Report on Operation	A 5	1/A10
Kuwaiti Paper Reports Successor to Wadi' Haddad [AS-SIYASAH 1 Apr 78]	A 5	1/A10

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

AKHBAR AL-KAHLIJ Comments on UNIFIL Activities	C 1	1/A11

KUWAIT

AS-SIYASAH Reports Statement by U.S. Envoy [4 April 78]	C 1	1/A11
AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Carter's Statements in Africa [5 April 78]	C 3	1/A13

SAUDI ARABIA

Mahmud Riyad Tells Khalid of Plans for Summit	C 4	1/A14
Foreign Minister To Visit Sudan 8 April	C 4	1/A14
Ziaul Haq To Make 10-Day Official Visit	C 5	1/B1
Argentine Navy Chief of Staff Leaves 6 April	C 5	1/B1

UAE

Minister of Petroleum Leaves for Baghdad	C 5	1/B1

YEMEN--PDRY

Ethiopia's Mengistu Currently Making Visit	C 5	1/B1

YEMEN--YAR

YAR Agrees To Join Arab Solidarity Committee	C 5	1/B1
Al-Ghashmi Sends Messages to Saudi Leaders	C 6	1/B2
Prime Minister Receives Romanian Delegation	C 6	1/B2
British Overseas Development Official Arrives	C 6	1/B2

BRIEFS

PDRY-GDR Trade; New Ambassador in Aden	C 6	1/B2

EGYPT

Afgan President Daud Begins 3-Day Visit to Egypt D 1 1/B3
As-Sadat Welcomes Daud D 1 1/B3
As-Sadat Banquet Speech D 1 1/B3
Daud Banquet Speech D 3 1/B5
Nile Necklace Bestowed on Daud D 3 1/B5
Electricity Ministry Delegation Leaves for Romania D 4 1/B6
Information Minister Returns Home From Tokyo D 4 1/B6

IRAQ

'Aflaq Gives Speech on Ba'th Party Anniversary E 1 1/B7
SWAPO Chief Visits Iraq, Lauds Ba'th Party E 2 1/B8
Talks With Ba'th Official E 2 1/B8
Iraqi, Sudanese Trade Unions Sign Protocol E 3 1/B9
Qatari Oil Minister Arrives in Baghdad E 3 1/B9
Briefs: Somali Delegation Departs E 3 1/B9

JORDAN

Mudar Badran Returns From Libya, Makes Statement F 1 1/B10
Press Statement Issued F 1 1/B10
Arab League Secretary Arrives, Makes Statement F 2 1/B11
Received by Husayn F 3 1/B12
Received by Acting Premier F 3 1/B12
Envoys To Begin Visiting Arab Countries 8 April [AR-RA'Y 7 Apr 78] F 3 1/B12
London AD-DUSTUR Reports Demonstrations in Amman F 3 1/B12

LEBANON

Israeli Plan To Withdraw From South Reported G 1 1/B13
Foreign Ministry Officials Meet With Ambassadors G 1 1/B13
UNIFIL Chief of Staff Arrives in Beirut G 2 1/B14
Prime Minister al-Huss Meets Iraqi Ambassador G 2 1/B14
Incident Between Christians, UN Troops Reported G 2 1/B14
Voice of Lebanon: 8 Palestinians Die in Clash G 2 1/B14

SYRIA

Damascus Rally Held on Ba'th Party Anniversary H 1 1/C1
TISHRIN Claims Israel Planted Mines in Syria H 2 1/C2

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Communique Issued on FLN-Japanese Socialists' Talks I 1 1/C4

LIBYA

Communique Issued Following Badran's Visit I 1 1/C4
Badran Departs 6 April I 2 1/C5
Details of Libyan-Jordanian Agreements Reported I 3 1/C6
People's Committees' Adoption of Resolutions Reported I 3 1/C6

MAURITANIA

Communique Issued Favoring Palestinians I 4 1/C7

SUDAN

Felix Malloum, Delegation Arrive for Visit I 5 1/C8

TUNISIA

Numayri Envoy: Tunisian-Sudanese Views Identical I 5 1/C8

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Reports 'Liberating' Town From Moroccans I 6 1/C9

BRIEFS

Algerian Minister Returns; DPRK Official Leaves Algeria; Soviet Delegation in Algeria; GDR Delegation in Libya I 6 1/C9

ISRAEL

Foreign Ministry Sees No Violation of Arms Pact [POST 7 Apr 78] N 1 1/C10
Military Sources Confirm Withdrawal Plan Submitted N 1 1/C10
AFP Reports Plan N 1 1/C10
Details on Lebanon Clash Involving IDF Soldiers N 1 1/C10
Public Opinion Poll: U.S. Supporting Arabs [HA'AREZ 6 Apr 78] N 2 1/C11
Dayan Denies He Will Visit Egypt, United States N 3 1/C12
Peres Leaves for U.S. Visit, Will Meet Officials [MA'ARIV 6 Apr 78] N 3 1/C12
Ehrlich Discusses Finance, Officers' Letter N 3 1/C12
Jersualem POST Comments on S. Lebanon Situation [7 Apr 78] N 4 1/C13
Moda'i on Future of Gulf of Suez Oil Wells [POST 6 Apr 78] N 6 1/D1

IRAN

Alleged Soviet Spy Interrogated, Confesses, Dies R 1 1/D2
Briefs: 2d Rastakhiz Committee Founded R 1 1/D2

SOUTH ASIA

INDIA

Jagjivan Ram: India Opposes Neutron Bomb S 1 1/D3
India Will Cooperate in Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy S 1 1/D3
Congress-I Executive Discusses Gandhi Arrest Rumors S 1 1/D3
Janata Party To Promote Collective Leadership S 1 1/D3
Indo-Soviet Planning Group Talks Begin 5 April S 2 1/D4
India, USSR Discuss Cooperation in Mineral Processing S 2 1/D4
Talks With Striking Space Center Employees Ruled Out S 3 1/D5
Department of Space Issues Annual Report S 3 1/D5

PAKISTAN

Bhutto Supporters Arrested in Lahore 6 April S 5 1/D7

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50

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JOINT FORCES ISSUES STATEMENT ON CLASH WITH ISRAELIS

JN061627Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] An advanced ambush of the joint forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement yesterday captured an enemy military vehicle with three Israeli soldiers on board. Following a clash, the three soldiers were killed and others escaped.

The military spokesman of the joint forces central command has issued the following military statement on the incident: Yesterday afternoon an Israeli military vehicle proceeded toward Ra's al-'Ayn, where it met with an advanced observation post of our forces. Fire was returned when the Israeli vehicle opened fire on our observation post. The clash resulted in the death of three of the enemy soldiers, and others escaped. The Israeli vehicle was captured.

KUWAITI PAPER REPORTS DETAILS OF ARAB LEAGUE SESSION

LD062206Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 2 Apr 78 pp 1, 14 LD

[Article by Najib Salih]

[Excerpts] Cairo--"An early Arab summit conference will be held in Khartoum during the current month," Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad told AS-SIYASAH. He also said that Khartoum was chosen as the site for the conference and President Ja'far Numayri as its coordinator because Sudan was not involved in recent Arab political altercations.

AS-SIYASAH has learned that this decision was reached at the foreign ministers' conference after the following developments:

The Palestinian delegation to the meeting was about 15 minutes late in arriving at the conference, which created the impression that the Palestinians would boycott the conference. However, while Sudanese Vice President and Foreign Minister Ar-Rashid at-Tahir, chairman of the current session, was delivering his speech, Sa'id Kamal, deputy head of the PLO Political Department, arrived at the meeting with the Palestinian delegation. Smiles of satisfaction appeared on all faces since many had wagered that the conference would fail if the Palestinians did not attend the council meetings.

Sa'id Kamal told AS-SIYASAH that the attendance of the Palestinian delegation came about following intensive contacts between Cairo and the PLO leadership in Beirut. The PLO believed that its absence from the meeting would somehow isolate it from the Arab countries attending the meeting. He said that though the question of Arab solidarity is not specific and somewhat ambiguous, we expressed reservations regarding any resolutions that might be inconsistent with Arab solidarity and the rights of the Palestinian people.

Ar-Rashid at-Tahir told AS-SIYASAH that President Numayri still believes in the need for convening an urgent summit meeting, that Sudan is prepared to host the conference and that it is the only Arab country qualified to do so, since it has recently been able to settle its differences with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in favor of the Arab cause. Numayri, according to At-Tahir, believes that a summit conference should not be delayed more than necessary because events in the area are developing at a fantastic speed.

AS-SIYASAH has also learned that a high-level Saudia-Syrian meeting will be held within a few days to discuss the outcome of the conference and what can be done in the field of Arab solidarity.

AS-SIYASAH further learned that Sa'ud al-Faysal [Saudi foreign minister] carried with him a message from President as-Sadat to King Khalid concerning the same question and the current events in southern Lebanon.

Inside the Arab League hall, overlooking the Nile, those present at the meeting applauded warmly when a draft resolution was submitted at the closed meeting confirming the Arab countries' support for the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Most prominent among those who applauded, AS-SIYASAH learned from delegation sources, was Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil. The applause was such that Sa'id Kamal stood up for more than a minute to bow in appreciation.

This salutation by the official Egyptian delegation was preceded by a similar salutation following the arrival of the Palestinian delegation when Tahsin Bashir, the Egyptian permanent delegate to the Arab League, left his seat and went to where the Palestinian delegation was sitting and whispered in Sa'id Kamal's ear: "We were afraid and worried when you were late." This means that there was a previous agreement between the Egyptian delegation and the Palestinian delegation on the need for a Palestinian presence at this Arab meeting.

ARAB LEAGUE'S RIYAD INTERVIEWED BY AMMAN PAPER

JN070907Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Apr 78 p 14 JN

[Interview granted by Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad to AD-DUSTUR correspondent Salim Sakit al-Ma'ani--presumably in Amman on 6 April]

[Excerpts] Question: What are your expectations regarding the convocation of an urgent summit conference? What is your assessment of the need to expedite the convocation of such a conference? What efforts does the Arab League intend to exert to unify the Arab ranks?

Answer: A summit conference is an Arab need, particularly under these circumstances through which we are passing and because Israel is challenging the Arab nation by refusing to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and denying the rights of the Palestinian people. Israel also has shown its defiance by launching an aggression against Lebanon and occupying Lebanese territory. However, the proper preparations for this conference should be made because of the differences prevailing among several Arab countries. The current efforts by certain Arab countries demonstrate some of the methods necessary for preparing this conference.

Question: What is your view about the current situation in Lebanon and the connection between this situation and the presence of the deterrent forces?

Answer: The Arab deterrent forces are stationed in Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese president. The renewal of their 6-month mandate was also made at the request of the Lebanese president. We hope that during this period the Lebanese president will be able to build the Lebanese security forces' capability for defending security in Lebanon. The deterrent forces will end their mission at the request of President Sarkis. However, this depends on the success of President Sarkis' efforts to build the Lebanese security forces and restore amity among all parties in Lebanon.

Question: How long do you believe the UN troops could remain in Lebanon?

Answer: No foreign troops delegated by an organization--whether Arab or foreign organizations--can stay in Lebanon indefinitely. Their presence depends on the restoration of peace in Lebanon. This could be done if Israel respects Lebanon's sovereignty and implements the UN resolution by withdrawing from Lebanese territory. However, if Israel continues procrastinating, this would mean that Israel will not respect the resolution and will continue its expansion into the Arab territories. Under such circumstances, we would say that the UN troops had failed to achieve the goal for which they were sent.

Question: What about your talks with Jordanian officials?

Answer: The talks will revolve around the current Arab situation and what we should do during the next stage to confront the dangers of world Zionism and its challenges for the Arab nation. There is no doubt that Arab solidarity and joint Arab action are the only means that will enable the Arab nation to confront Israel.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE CARRIES 'ARAFAT MESSAGE TO UAE

JN041450Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1425 GMT 4 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 April--Ribhi Hallum, PLO representative in the UAE, returned here today from Beirut. He stated that he will convey a message to His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, pertaining to the current Arab situation in general and the Palestinian issue in particular.

The Palestinian official warned against an Israeli military plan which is currently being prepared to attack the joint forces in southern Lebanon in cooperation with the Lebanese isolationists with the aim of liquidating the joint forces. Moreover, there is another political plan aimed at eliminating the Palestinian presence from southern Lebanon. It should be recalled that the PLO representative in the UAE was summoned to Beirut 2 days ago by the PLO in order to become acquainted with the current situation of the Palestinian issue.

FATAH OFFICIAL MEETS WITH CUBAN AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT

JN061707Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], member of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement and member of the General Command of the Al-'Asifah forces, met in Beirut yesterday with the Cuban ambassador to Lebanon. During the meeting, they reviewed the recent developments of the Palestinian issue and the question of the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon as well as the tasks of the UN forces. It has been learned that the meeting was dominated by an atmosphere of amity, understanding and complete agreement in viewpoints.

PALESTINIAN-SYRIAN COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETS

JN061655Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] The Palestinian-Syrian Coordination Committee met in Damascus yesterday. The Palestinian side was chaired by brother Abu al-Lutf and the Syrian side by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The morning and evening meetings dealt with joint issues in light of the serious developments resulting from the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon.

Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO Political Department, yesterday met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. The radio correspondent has learned that their discussions dealt with the situation in southern Lebanon and the continued Zionist occupation of Lebanese territories.

HABASH MAKES STATEMENT TO INA ON VISIT TO IRAQ

JN070821Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 7 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 April--Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], has affirmed the front's pride over its relations with the Ba'th Party and the progressive regime in Iraq. He said that these relations, which have been developing for 10 years, clearly reflect favorably on Palestinian action and the Palestinian revolution as an integral part of the one Arab revolution.

In a statement to INA prior to his departure from Baghdad at dawn today after participating in the funeral of martyr Dr Wadi' Haddad, Dr Habash expressed his profound thanks to Iraqi officials for the attention and care rendered to martyr Dr Wadi' Haddad. Dr Habash pointed out that the PFLP delegation held talks with Ba'th Party comrades about the status of the Palestinian revolution at this critical stage and about the Arab situation in general.

ARAB PETROLEUM WORKERS FEDERATION MEETS IN TRIPOLI

LD061956Y Tripoli JANA in English GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 6, JANA--The Arab Federation for workers in Petroleum, Metallurgical and Chemical Industries resumed its meetings yesterday to discuss the items on the agenda. At the outset of the evening session, Mr Hamid Abu Bakr, chairman of the General Syndicate for Petroleum in the Jamahiriyah, was elected chairman of the conference. The Moroccan and Palestinian chief delegates were elected deputies to the chairman.

During the session, the conference endorsed the resolutions approved by the Executive Council in its extraordinary session held in the Jamahiriyah from 5-7 January. It also endorsed the resolutions passed by the council in its ordinary meeting held from 1-2 April, the foremost among which were the following: the temporary change of offices of the headquarters of the secretariat, the suspension of membership for the Egyptian syndicate and the former secretary-general of the previous federation, and support for the national front for confrontation and steadfastness. The conference is due to resume its meetings tomorrow at 9:30 a.m.

Three Subcommittees Set Up

LD062212Y Tripoli JANA in English 1842 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 6, JANA--The conference of the Arab Federation for Workers in Petroleum, Mining and Chemical Industries resumed its meetings this morning with the head of the General Union for Petroleum Workers in the Jamahiriyah and chairman of the conference for the Arab federation, Ahmed Abu Bakr, in the chair.

Speeches were made by the heads of the Iraqi, Sudanese, Kuwaiti, Jordanian, and the Jamahiriyah delegations to the conference. It has been decided to set up the following three subcommittees:

1. The financial committee including Kuwait, Democratic Yemen, Iraq, Palestine, Syria, Sudan, Jordan, Algeria and the Jamahiriyah.

2. The drafting committee including Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Kuwait, the Jamahiriyah and Algeria.

3. The committee for amending the constitution including Democratic Yemen, the Jamahiriyah, Syria, Iraq, Palestine and Kuwait.

In his speech, the representative of the French labour union, expressed his appreciation of the efforts exerted by the Jamahiriyah to ensure the welfare of the Arab working classes. The conference will resume its sessions this evening to carry on the discussion on the rest of the agenda.

INA REPORTS FEDAYEEN OPERATION IN JERUSALEM

JN051423Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 5 April--A group of Palestinian revolutionaries operating from inside occupied Palestine last night attacked a number of enemy soldiers near a military transport center near Rockefeller museum in eastern Jerusalem.

A Palestinian military communique released today says that the revolutionaires, who began their attack at 2005 last night using machineguns, wounded or killed an unspecified number of enemy personnel. The communique adds that the revolutionaires clashed with an enemy foot patrol in the area and engaged it for 5 minutes, inflicting further losses on the enemy before withdrawing from the scene of the operation.

Damascus Report on Operation

JN050952Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 5 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Occupied Palestine--The Palestinian revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland have carried out a daring fedayeen operation against the Zionist enemy forces in the city of Jerusalem. They opened fire on several enemy soldiers causing several casulaties. The Zionist enemy admitted this operation and claimed that only one Israeli soldier was wounded as a result of this operation. The occupation authorities unleashed wide-scale search operations in an attempt to apprehend the revolutionaries who carried out the operation.

KUWAITI PAPER REPORTS SUCCESSOR TO WADI' HADDAD

LD031816Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 1 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpt] The Palestinian affairs editor writes: Abu Khalid (38 years old) has taken over command of the external operations section in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] succeeding the late Dr Wadi' Haddad, who died last week and is to be buried in Baghdad.

It is understood that Abu Khalid was second in command of the section, which has been operating within the PFLP under various formulas. While the PFLP command used to maintain that ties [with the section] had been broken, other parties insisted that such ties continued to exist implicitly.

BAHRAIN

AKHBAR AL-KAHLIJ COMMENTS ON UNIFIL ACTIVITIES

JN070937Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0900 GMT 7 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 7 April--The newspaper AKHBAR AL-KAHLIJ today calls on UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim to draw the attention of the Security Council to the location of the UN troops in southern Lebanon. In its commentary the paper points out that the troops of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] have taken up positions on the line separating the Palestinian forces and the Zionist invasion forces. The paper says that the UN troops have not yet moved into the occupied area and that the Israeli forces are maintaining their positions and even starting to reinforce these positions and set up more fortifications.

The paper adds: It seems that the aim of the UN troops is to prevent the Palestinian resistance from confronting the Zionist invasion forces. The Bahrain paper asserts that this matter completely contradicts the UN resolution, the principal article of which calls for the withdrawal of the Zionist forces.

KUWAIT

AS-SIYASAH REPORTS STATEMENT BY U.S. ENVOY

LD062344Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 4 Apr 78 p 20 LD

[Mustafa Abu Libdah article: "Talk with U.S. State Department Envoy on Lebanon, the Palestinians, Iran, As-Sadat's initiative, Saudi Arabia and Syria"]

[Text] Professor Stephen Spiegel arrived in Kuwait the day before yesterday from Teheran. Earlier he was in Israel where he attended the Shiloah seminar on U.S.-Israeli relations as the State Department's envoy. And because Professor Spiegel had previously worked with the Brookings Institute in which a large number of the U.S. administration advisers took part in drawing up the well-known report on the Middle East, dialog with him on current affairs is likely to reflect to a certain extent some aspects of the official U.S. views.

Coming from Teheran, Professor Speigel carries with him the feelings of concern of many Iranian officials--concern over U.S. laxity in facing Soviet plans in the Horn of Africa and in the area in general.

Not only the Iranians but he, also, believes that the U.S. administration now concentrates on the role of Saudi Arabia as a balancing power in the area more than it did before on the role of Iran and of other parties.

Professor Spiegel did not dismiss speculation inside and outside Iran that the United States is not disturbed about of the current demonstrations and disturbances in Iran, even though elsewhere it is even speculated that without secret U.S. backing the demonstrations in Iran would not have gone so far and on such a large scale.

Regarding Egypt and President as-Sadat's initiative, Professor Spiegel believes that the initiative is not dead, although it has weakened following persistent Israeli intransigence.

He believes that Israel is interested in not letting the initiative die because its death would deprive Israel of a free opportunity for openness to the biggest Arab state. Also the death of the opportunity would inevitably necessitate a search for substitutes which certainly would not all be in Israel's interest. The U.S. envoy believes that President as-Sadat will give the initiative another chance within 5 months, after which he will make a decision.

Regarding the Arab summit, the U.S. envoy expressed an interesting view. He believes that the U.S. administration is certainly interested in the restoration of Arab solidarity because without this solidarity it would be impossible to reach a political solution. Also the restoration of solidarity would constitute an effective source of pressure on Israel to respond to settlement proposals. Therefore, the call for restoring Arab solidarity enjoys the U.S. administration's full blessing. Professor Spiegel believes that President as-Sadat can attend a summit meeting without abandoning his initiative. He can stand and declare that he is prepared to attend the summit and hear the other Arab views on the initiative. The Egyptian president can say: My initiative has caused a split inside Israel. Why should we, therefore, abandon it now when it has given us clear international support?

Why was the U.S. administration not enthusiastic about the initiative at the beginning?

The U.S. envoy believes that Washington was not enthusiastic about the initiative at the beginning because it was afraid of several things: embarrassing Saudi Arabia and Syria, the threat to Arab unity and the fear of assassination of President as-Sadat personally. But after the U.S. administration realized that none of these apprehensions would materialize, it thus, beginning last December, shifted toward supporting the initiative.

Professor Spiegel also expressed the belief that the previous U.S. administration in the era of Kissinger believed that Egypt was the center of the Arab world, but that the present administration in the era of Brzezinski believes that the center of gravity in the Arab world is Saudi Arabia. It was for this reason that the present U.S. administration was reluctant to support As-Sadat's initiative for fear of embarrassing Saudi Arabia and Syria.

Professor Spiegel also revealed that the new U.S. administration greatly admires Syria's role and that it was Brzezinski's admiration that was behind Washington's satisfaction with Syria's role in Lebanon. However, Professor Spiegel added, the U.S. admiration of Syria's role has now begun to change, and Washington now believes that if Syria continues playing its role in Lebanon matters could reach the point of a fifth war.

Regarding Washington's attitude toward the PLO, Spiegel believes that the new U.S. administration under Carter is preparing to deal with the PLO. But after As-Sadat's initiative, Washington began to abandon its belief in the need to involve the PLO in the solution. Therefore, among Washington's other aims behind sending UN forces to Lebanon is to weaken the PLO militarily so that, politically, the PLO will agree to join the settlement talks at a later stage.

[illegible]ding Carter-Begin relations, Professor Spiegel believes that the U.S. administration initiated a series of pressuring measures on the Israeli administration by arousing the American Jews and Jews inside Israel against Begin's policy as well as through reductions of arms for Israel.

Professor Spiegel does not exclude the possibility that in 2 months' time President Carter will stand to declar., as Eisenhower declared in the past, that he can no longer tolerate Israeli intransigence and that he is compelled to take direct drastic measures against the Israeli administration.

As for President Carter's weakness inside the United States and vis-a-vis the Congress. this weakness in the President's position is a double-edged weapon: If the President's internal weakness increases, he might reach a point of not being afraid of becoming weaker and therefore would openly stand against Israel without fear. However, this, to a certain extent, depends on the Congressional elections before the end of the current year.

Being involved in studying what the U.S. administration should do in the coming stage--and replying to a question in this reagard--Professor Spiegel said: I believe that the U.S. administration must now stop making statements. The more Carter talks about confronting Israel the greater Israel's confrontation plans will become and the more acute the open confrontation between them will become. Consequently, Carter would be unjustifiably revealing his cards in advance.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM ON CARTER'S STATEMENTS IN AFRICA

LD062216Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 5 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Once Again on Carter and Human Rights"]

[Excerpts] During his African tour, the U.S. President was anxious to change or eliminate the internationally dominant picture of the "ugly American." He strongly upheld the U.S. stand on the side of the black citizens--the owners of the land--in both Rhodesia and South Africa.

Consequently, he has recognized that these citizens have more right to their country than do the white groups, who usurped the land and the rule, and that they are capable of ruling themselves and managing their own affairs.

This is a commendable stand. But we are surprised at how the U.S. President uses double standards in one and the same situation. He stands with the Africans in their right to sovereignty and self-determination, but when the matter concerns us he is against the Arabs and against the Palestinians' rights to their land and to self-determination. He even refuses to recognize the representatives of the Palestinians and denies that they are worthy of ruling themselves and establishing an independent state of their own. This is at a time when he knows, and everybody else knows, that the Palestinians are no less worthy of ruling themselves than are any other people in Africa or elsewhere.

Courage in saying or declaring the truth means to do so in the face of strength and pressure. Therefore, the U.S. President would indeed be considered courageous if he unequivocally declared himself in support of the Palestinians' rights. These rights--as Carter knows well--are quite clear and are no less evident than the right of Africans to their land and to rule themselves.

However, as we demand that Carter adopt such a stand, we can see some excuse for him not doing so. The reason is that we, the Arabs, have not reached the level of being able to impose a kind of distinguished standard of dealing with us.

Because in the Arab-Israeli conflict we have chosen the course of compromise, we have allowed the Israelis a free hand in the international arena. They have been able to exploit every aspect of it and to turn their wrong into a right which is being imposed on us in a most humiliating manner. It is for this reason that we see that the U.S. President--apart from motives of traditional U.S. hostility toward the Arabs--is inclined toward those who constitute a threat and who have imposed themselves and their respect on others and have always disregarded all risks and flouted all rules.

SAUDI ARABIA

MAHMUD RIYAD TELLS KHALID OF PLANS FOR SUMMIT

LD060940Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad has said that he had informed King Khalid of the development of the Arab situation and of the outcome of his recent contacts with Arab officials in connection with the preparation for the convening of an Arab summit conference. The kingdom, he added, would naturally be a member of the committee which the Arab League Council decided at its recent meeting in Cairo to set up to prepare for the proposed summit. The kingdom has a leading and fundamental role with regard to Arab action in view of its contribution with all its potentials and in all fields for the Palestinian cause and the unified Arab action since 1948, he added.

Mahmud Riyad told SANA in a statement yesterday that, in view of the kingdom's leading role in this respect, it is only natural that the kingdom be a member of the committee preparing for the summit conference so that it contribute, as usual, to the closing of ranks and to work for the general good and for the unity of the Arab nation.

Mr Riyad recalled in this connection King Khalid's previous initiative to hold a mini-summit in Riyadh when matters in Lebanon became complicated. The five-side summit in Riyadh was successful and it contributed to the success of the Cairo summit later, he added. Regarding his talks with Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal, he said that they were concentrated on what could be done to rectify the currently disturbed Arab situation. He said he informed the minister of the outcome of his talks in this respect with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad when he visited Damascus.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT SUDAN 8 APRIL

LD061834Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, will leave for Khartoum the day after tomorrow, Saturday, for a visit during which he will have a meeting with Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to review Arab and international events and also a program of action for the coming stage. It will be recalled that the Arab League Council decided at its recent meeting to set up a committee under the chairmanship of the Sudanese president to prepare for the proposed Arab summit conference.

ZIAUL HAQ TO MAKE 10-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

LD061816Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] General Ziaul Haq, the military governor of Pakistan, will arrive in Riyadh on (?27) April for a 10-day official visit. In the course of the visit, there will be a working session between King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and General Ziaul Haq. His excellency will also perform the minor pilgrimage and visit the An-Nabawi Mosque in Al-Madinah.

ARGENTINE NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF LEAVES 6 APRIL

LD061839Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Summary] Adm Emilio Massera, commander in chief of the Argentine Navy, concluded his visit to Saudi Arabia this morning and left for Cairo.

UAE

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM LEAVES FOR BAGHDAD

JN061853Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1825 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 April--Dr Mani' Sa'id al-Yutaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, left here this evening for Baghdad at the invitation of Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Iraqi minister of oil. During the visit, Dr al-'Utaybah will participate in Iraq's celebration of the beginning of oil production from the (Al-Hays) field in Basrah in southern Iraq.

YEMEN--PDRY

ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU CURRENTLY MAKING VISIT

JN061159Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 6 April--It has been learned here that Mengistu Haile Mariam, prime minister and chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Government, is currently visiting the PDRY. Diplomatic sources said that the aim of the visit is to hold talks with Chairman Rubayyi' 'Ali on the situation in the Horn of Africa. The sources added that Mengistu is due to leave for Addis Ababa later today.

YEMEN--YAR

YAR AGREES TO JOIN ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE

JN061453Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1415 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] San'a', 6 April--At a meeting this morning the YAR Command Council discussed Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri's request for YAR participation in the Arab solidarity committee. It has been reported that YAR Command Council Chairman Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi approved the Sudanese request at today's meeting. Al-Ghashmi received a message yesterday from President Numayri on the Sudanese request.

YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj stated that today he will convey to the Sudanese president the YAR's agreement to participate in the Arab solidarity committee, which was formed during the latest session of the Arab League that recently convened in Cairo. He said that his country supports all efforts being made to restore unity to Arab ranks and steps to convene an Arab summit conference.

AL-GHASHMI SENDS MESSAGES TO SAUDI LEADERS

JN061450Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpts] Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, Command Council chairman and commander in chief of the armed forces, received in his office at the Republican Palace at 1000 today His Excellency Shaykh 'Ali Suqayr, Saudi ambassador in San'a', at the end of his tour of office in the YAR. During the meeting, brother Al-Ghashmi awarded his excellency the Ambassador Ma'rib medal, third class.

Brother Al-Ghashmi then asked the ambassador to convey three written messages to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Crown Prince and First Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES ROMANIAN DELEGATION

JN061439Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghabi, Command Council member and prime minister, received in his office this morning the Romanian delegation under [name indistinct], deputy minister of mines, petroleum and geology. The prime minister welcomed the delegation and praised the relations between the two friendly countries. The two sides then discussed drawing up a comprehensive formula for economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. They also discussed the (?promotion) of technical Yemeni cadres during the implementation of projects in the YAR and the Yemeni institutions themselves.

SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that [words indistinct] is witnessing tangible activity in the field of cooperation between the two countries, especially in the field of prospecting for petroleum and mineral wealth. The meeting was attended by brother Ahmad Sayyid Barakat, minister of state and chief of the Mineral Resources Department.

ERITISH OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT OFFICIAL ARRIVES

JN061456Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1410 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] San'a', 6 April--John Tomlinson, British secretary of state for overseas development [title as received] arrived here today on a visit of several days to the YAR. During his stay in San'a', the British minister will hold talks with Yemeni officials regarding technical cooperation programs between the two countries in a number of agricultural spheres.

BRIEFS

PDRY-GDR TRADE--In his office this morning brother Muhammad Ali Ba Surrah, under secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Supply, discussed with Comrade (Leonhart Horshell), director general in the GDR Ministry of Foreign Trade, the implementation of trade agreements signed in Berlin during the visit to the GDR last month of brother Mahmud Sa'id Madhi, member of the Central Committee and minister of trade supply. They also discussed cooperation and trade between the two friendly countries. Moreover, the PDRY-GDR joint committee formed during the first round of talks has discussed a number of points on its agenda. [Text] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD/EA]

NEW AMBASSADOR IN ADEN--Lajos Benczekovits, first ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic with his seat in Aden, has presented his credentials to Salim 'Ali Rubayyi, chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers. [Text] [Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 31 Mar 78 p 8 LD]

AFGAN PRESIDENT DAUD BEGINS 3-DAY VISIT TO EGYPT

As-Sadat Welcomes Daud

NC061550Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The official talks between President Anwar as-Sadat and Afgan President Mohammad Daud will begin Saturday. The talks will deal with the latest developments in the Middle East, nonalined issues and relations between the two countries.

President as-Sadat welcomed the Afgan guest upon his arrival today at Cairo airport for a 3-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. President as-Sadat delivered a speech welcoming the Afgan president. He said that he is most happy to receive President Mohammed Daud after more than 23 years. He added: On this occasion, I express the feelings of the Egyptian people toward President Daud and the Afgan people. He said there is no need to say anything about the relations between the two countries other than that they are fraternal.

In reply, the Afgan president expressed his thanks and those of the Afgan people to President as-Sadat and the Egyptian people. He praised the firm relations between the two countries and expressed happiness to be meeting President as-Sadat for the second time. President as-Sadat will give a banquet tonight in 'Abidin Palace in honor of Afgan President Mohammad Daud.

As-Sadat Banquet Speech

NC062140Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text of speech by President as-Sadat at a banquet for Afgan President Mohammad Daud on the evening of 6 April--read by announcer]

[Text] Dear brother, President Mohammad Daud Khan, dear brothers: I am happy to welcome a close friend with whom and with whose people we have the strongest ties based on common vision and common faith in man's eternal mission for a better world governed by justice, prosperity and peace. In every Egyptian heart your country enjoys extreme appreciation and a special place because spiritual and intellectual ties between our two peoples for hundreds of years have created a torrential flow of interaction and cohesion.

In the recent past, 2 years ago to be specific, we celebrated the centenary of the arrival of the great Afgan thinker Jamal ad-Din al-Afghani in Egypt. He enriched the intellectual and spiritual life throughout the Islamic world and contributed to the revival of the glorious heritage of which we are all proud and by which our ideas and our work are inspired.

We are also proud that the fraternal Afgan people come to Egypt for education and use the holy Al-Azhar and the Egyptian universities as a source of knowledge and a center for learning and research, thus adding tangibly to the Islamic heritage and contributing positively to the joining of the intellectual tributaries and the deepening of common understanding.

You know that we are following, with all appreciation and admiration, the wise nationalist policy you have laid down on the basis of the independence of the national will; pride in genuine creed and thoughts; loyalty to the sublime principles as being the factors which determine right and wrong; rejection of alinement, subservience and spheres of influence; and adherence to nonalinement as a philosophy and a policy.

We remember very well that you personally participated in the first nonalined conference, which was held in Cairo. We note the positive role you are playing to consolidate the ideas of nonalinement and to strengthen nonalinement as a rational movement capable of continuing to develop and capable of influencing the course of world politics and international events.

We take satisfaction in viewing your current efforts to achieve a higher degree of growth and to promote social and economic development for the welfare and prosperity of the Afgan people and for making the future of their sons secure. I need not affirm that we welcome the intensification of cooperation between the two countries and two peoples in all fields.

My dear brother and friend, we note before you with appreciation and gratitude your principled stance alongside right and justice and your complete support for the Arab peoples' right to regain their occupied territory and to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self-determination, repatriation and the establishment of their national entity on their land.

Since I made my peace initiative on behalf of the masses of the Egyptian people, we have confronted Israel with the greatest challenge. Israel has so far been incapable of facing the initiative with the same sense of great historic responsibility and with the same ability to overcome all past complexes and pains and to proceed toward a future in which the area would enjoy stability and tranquillity and in which bitterness, suffering and hatred would vanish in order to open the way to coexistence and neighborliness.

As I have said on several occasions, we firmly believe that the Palestinian people's question is the core and essence of the conflict. Therefore, it is--and nothing else--the key to a settlement as well as the starting point. It would be impossible to reach a just and lasting settlement without solving this problem in a way satisfactory to the Palestinian people and acceptable to the international community, which has recognized this struggling people's right to self-determination.

If Israel wants to pretend not to see this fact or to circumvent it, this would be futile because we are determined to achieve this legitimate demand for the Palestinian people, who rely on a natural right granted to them by God and acknowledged by the peace-loving peoples of the world.

I want to reiterate here that we cannot accept a settlement of the problem unless it is based on Israel's comprehensive withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territory without exception and on the achievement of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

We cannot be deceived by words or expressions of intent if these are not compatible with deeds and policy. Nor can we depart from substance to form or direct our attention to the negotiating process and treat this process as the goal when we consider it a means leading to the achievement of the goal. Hence we agree to continue the process to the degree that the other side shows readiness to respond.

Brothers and friends, allow me to ask you to stand to greet President Mohammad Daud Khan, the fraternal Afgan people and the fraternal and friendly relations linking the two countries and the two peoples.

Daud Banquet Speech

NC062155Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Report on 6 April speech by Afgan President Mohammad Daud at banquet given in his honor by President Anwar as-Sadat in Cairo]

[Text] President Mohammad Daud made a speech in which he greeted President as-Sadat and the Egyptian people. He said that the people of Afghanistan appreciate and admire the relentless and continuous struggle waged by the Egyptian Government and people against imperialism. He added that the October 1973 battles showed the historic heroism of the Egyptian armed forces, deserving all our pride and appreciation and denoting the Egyptian citizens' courage in defense of their country's honor and safety.

The Afgan president added: Peace and security will not prevail in the Middle East unless Israel gives up the occupied Arab territories and recognizes the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to set up their independent state. The recent Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon has once again exposed Israel's aggressive nature and clearly proves Israel's bad intentions and insistence on its policy of hostility toward the Arab nation. Afghanistan strongly condemns Israel's aggressive campaign against Lebanon.

The Afgan president expressed hope that a permanent solution providing security and stability in the region will be achieved through the efforts of all the Arab states.

He added: It is important now that the Arab nation should unite in words and deeds and objectives when it comes to matters of destiny.

President Mohammad Daud denounced the policy of racial discrimination and imperialism of certain states and deplored the deteriorating situation in the Horn of Africa as a result of this detested policy.

Referring to the nonalined states' unifying committee due to meet in Kabul at the ministerial level in May, he stressed the need for the solidarity of the nonalined states.

In conclusion, President Daud underlined the importance of cooperation among states in all fields.

Nile Necklace Bestowed on Daud

NC062037Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1947 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 April--President Anwar as-Sadat has bestowed the Egyptian Necklace of the Nile upon Afgan President Mohammad Daud.

In presenting the Necklace of the Nile at a dinner banquet he gave in honor of the Afgan president tonight, President as-Sadat said: On behalf of the Egyptian people and in appreciation of your person and your efforts and in appreciation of the fraternal people of Afghanistan, I present you with this necklace.

ELECTRICITY MINISTRY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR ROMANIA

NC0618052Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 April--Engineer Ahmad Sultan, deputy prime minister for production and minister of electricity and energy, left Cairo today for Bucharest at the head of an Egyptian delegation for a 10-day official visit to Romania.

During his visit Engineer Ahmad Sultan will sign the agreement under which the Electricity Ministry will get a $20-million loan to finance the rural electrification projects and boost electricity output in eight areas in Ad-Daqahliyah and Al-Gharbiyah.

The delegation will also hold talks with Romanian officials on Romania's contribution to the Electricity Ministry's 1978-82 5-year-plan projects.

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS HOME FROM TOKYO

NC0615042Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1429 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 6 April--Minister of Information and Culture 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi returned to Cairo from Tokyo today following a 10-day visit to Japan. During the visit he attended the opening of the Egyptian antiquities exhibition at the Tokyo museum on Friday and held talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda on the Middle East crisis and Egypt's efforts in this field.

As-Sawi said that he handed the Japanese chief cabinet secretary a letter from President Anwar as-Sadat for Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, inviting Fukuda to visit Egypt.

'AFLAQ GIVES SPEECH ON BA'TH PARTY ANNIVERSARY

JN062059 [Editorial report JN] Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic at 1700 GMT on 6 April begins a live relay of a speech by Ba'th Party founder Michel 'Aflaq on Iraqi television on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the establishment of the Ba'th Party.

After the announcer's introduction, 'Aflaq begins his 70-minute speech. He expresses sorrow over the disintegration of the Arab nation and its weakness, despite its tremendous natural resources. The Ba'th Party, he says, was established to remove this paradox. He expresses the conviction that this present state of weakness is a transient one and that the Arabs will eventually rise and revolt.

Analyzing the reasons for the 1967 war, 'Aflaq says: "When U.S. imperialism and the Zionist entity found that the Arab progressive forces were dismembered due to the plot of secession [the breakup of the UAR], and after the plots of 18 October and 23 February against the Ba'th Party in Damascus and Iraq, they tricked 'Abd an-Nasir into a surprise war and believed that the defeat would be enough to subdue the Arab people and force them to accept the fait accompli."

'Aflaq reviews the history of the Arab nation since the 1967 war and expresses pride at the emergence of a strong Palestinian resistance and at the Ba'th takeover in Iraq. Speaking about the settlement efforts in the Middle East, 'Aflaq says: "the October war was skillfully invented to impose a settlement, which is the liquidation of the Palestinian cause through reconciliation with the Zionist enemy, negotiations and recognition. This has become a bigger obstacle on the path to settlement than the obstacle placed by the 1967 war. This unexpected situation threw the enemy camp and the agents into disarray, which has continued until now. After its partial defeat, the Zionist enemy became exposed to the whole world. The artificiality of the enemy's entity was revealed, its weak point exposed and its existence proved to be only temporary. It has been proved that this existence will end after the first Arab victory."

Blaming the Arab regimes which are acting in collusion with the United States, 'Aflaq says: "These regimes are unable now to bear the burden of their imagined victory because the spirit of October among the Arab masses is contradictory to the spirit of capitulation which these regimes have tried to impose upon them."

'Aflaq asks how Egypt, the vanguard of Arab progress for the past 2 centuries, can demand that the Arabs make peace with the enemy and accept the enemy terms. He says: "As-Sadat has chosen to be the implementer of secessionism and apostasy and the tool of Arab reaction and imperialism in the region."

'Aflaq also expresses regret that Syria, the birthplace of the Ba'th movement, also should be a tool in the imperialist hand. He says: "The Syrian position is the same as that of Egypt despite outward differences."

Speaking on the Palestinian issue, 'Aflaq says no one has the right to deal with this issue independently, because it is a pan-Arab issue. He states: "Even the Palestinian resistance, which is one of the main symbols of the steadfastness of this nation and a force which defends the existence of this nation, is part of this nation's revolutionary movement and does not have the right to deal alone with a cause which is the cause of the whole Arab existence."

Speaking on peace in the region, 'Aflaq says that the Arab nation has inherited one of the greatest cultures in history and longs for peace. This peace, 'Aflaq adds, can never be achieved unless the Arabs remove the aggression against them. The peace offered by the enemy, he adds, is a false and treacherous peace. 'Aflaq says: "We are forced to confront the enemy and fight them because we defend our existence and destiny. Therefore, our war is very different from their wars and our peace very different from theirs. The peace called for by the big, strong and developed states is the strong peace which imposes terms, not the weak peace which begs mercy from this or that side." 'Aflaq says: the West knows our rights because the West created the troubles for us.

On relations with the socialist countries, 'Aflaq says: "Our relations with the socialist peoples and states, though comparatively recent, are stronger than our relations with the West, despite the fact that the viewpoints of the socialist countries on our Palestinian cause are not the same as ours." Mr 'Aflaq praises the Iraqi Ba'th Party and touches on the achievements of the party in the various fields.

Concluding his speech, 'Aflaq urges the Ba'thists to work for the consolidation of Arab resources and reunite the progressive forces in the Arab nation. He calls upon the Ba'thists to deepen the humanitarian and cultural aspect of the Ba'th movement.

SWAPO CHIEF VISITS IRAQ, LAUDS BA'TH PARTY

JN0507392 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0718 GMT 5 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 April--Sam Nujoma, president of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] in Namibia, today began a visit to Iraq which will last several days at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command.

In a statement to the press, Nujoma said that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and SWAPO are fighting in one trench against imperialism and Zionism. He added that the African peoples view with pride and admiration the heroic struggle being waged by the Palestinian Arab people against Zionism and imperialism.

Talks With Ba'th Official

JN0614432 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1333 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 April--Dr Munif ar-Razzaz, the assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and officer in charge of the party's Foreign Relations Office, has warned of the danger of the new policy being pursued by the racist regimes in Africa to suppress national liberation movements there.

Speaking during his meeting here today with Sam Nujoma, leader of SWAPO in Namibia, and the members of his delegation, Dr Ar-Razzaz pointed out that this new policy centers on the conclusion of agreements with some of the leaders of these movements to end the struggle against those racist regimes in exchange for some personal gains which do not represent the African people's aspirations for sovereignty and liberation.

Dr ar-Razzaz stressed Iraq's support for national liberation movements and said: As a revolutionary party, we support these movements in their struggle against the forces of colonialism, imperialism and racism.

For his part, Nujoma praised the Ba'th Party's support for national liberation movements in the world and its principled attitude toward the imperialist and Zionist forces and racist regimes.

Nujoma said that the policy of the imperialist forces in Africa is to prolong their colonialization of Africa and to divide this region in order to guarantee that they will continue to get its raw materials for their industry and war machine and to find markets for their manufactured products.

Nujoma affirmed that SWAPO will continue its struggle for the liberation of Namibia from the domination of South Africa's racist regime. He also affirmed that the world Zionist movement and its racist entity in Palestine are giving limitless support to the racist regimes in Africa and share their objectives and policies which are based on racial discrimination and colonialization.

Nujoma said that the imperialist and Zionist forces have settled a large number of Zionists of different nationalities in Namibia in order to exploit the region's natural resources and to carry out aggressive designs.

IRAQI, SUDANESE TRADE UNIONS SIGN PROTOCOL

JN021457Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 2 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 April--The workers of Iraq and Sudan have stressed the importance of consolidating the unity of the Arab workers through the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU], with headquarters in Baghdad. They have also stressed the need for joint work to coordinate and unite the common efforts today strengthening relations among Arab trade unions.

This was stated in a cooperation protocol signed here between the two confederations. The protocol, which was signed by Muhammad 'Ayish, Revolution Command Council member and chairman of the Iraqi Confederation of Trade Unions, and 'Abdallah Nasr Qanawi, chairman of the Sudanese Confederation of Trade Unions, includes the consolidation of cooperation between the two confederations in all the aspects of ICATU activities as well as those of its general secretariat, using all possible means to increase its role in the Arab region.

QATARI OIL MINISTER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN070829Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0808 GMT 7 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 April--Qatari Oil Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Khalifah Al Thani arrived here today at the head of a delegation to attend the ceremony marking the inauguration of the Luhays oilfields in Basrah district in southern Iraq. He was received at the airport by Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim and the Qatari ambassador in Baghdad.

BRIEFS

SOMALI DELEGATION DEPARTS--Baghdad, 6 April--Somali Fisheries Minister Ali Jama Osman and the members of his delegation left Baghdad today following a 3-day visit during which the Somali minister held talks with officials of the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform on cooperation between the two countries in the field of fisheries. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1344 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN]

MUDAR BADRAN RETURNS FROM LIBYA, MAKES STATEMENT

JN062024Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the delegation accompanying him returned to Amman this evening from the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah following a 3-day visit during which he conveyed a letter from His Majesty King Husayn to the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He also held talks with senior Libyan officials on the current Arab issues and the relations between the two fraternal countries.

Upon arrival at Amman airport, the prime minister stated that the spirit of fraternity prevailed during the talks he held with the Libyan officials, foremost of whom were Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Chairman of the General People's Committee 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi. He added that he had delivered a letter from King Husayn to the Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi regarding his majesty's call for building a unified Arab stand toward the escalated events in the region so as to face the hostile plans aimed against our Arab nation. He further said: Our talks with our brothers in the Libyan Jamahiriyah centered on strengthening the unified pan-Arab action and utilizing the Arab potentials in the service of the common destiny. We also studied in detail the urgent responsibilities in facing the future.

The prime minister added that he felt Libya's deep appreciation of His Majesty King Husayn's stands and Jordan's steadfastness and shouldering of its pan-Arab and historic responsibilities. He also felt Al-Qadhdhafi's support for His Majesty King Husayn's call for an Arab meeting at the highest possible level. The prime minister further said that during the visit a review was also made of the relations between the two fraternal countries. Agreement was reached on the need for widening the scope of cooperation in a way that will enhance the ties of fraternity in various fields, as well as on the need to continue meetings to achieve these aims. Moreover, two agreements were signed: one on economic, technical and scientific cooperation and another on cultural cooperation.

He added that an invitation has been extended to the brother chairman of the General People's Committee and Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki to visit Jordan. They have accepted the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed later.

The prime minister was received at Amman airport by Dr 'Abd as-Salam al-Majali, acting prime minister; Staff Lt Gen Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the armed forces; the ministers and high-ranking officials.

Press Statement Issued

JN062036Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] A press statement was issued in the Libyan Jamahiriyah this evening on a 3-day visit to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah by Prime Minister Mudar Badran at the head of an official delegation including Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim. During this visit Badran delivered a message to His Excellency Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, from His Majesty King Husayn. During this visit Badran met with His Excellency leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Libyan officials.

The meetings were held in an atmosphere of fraternity. The talks dealt with the current Arab situation and the latest developments in the Arab area and Jordan's concept to strengthen unified pan-Arab action in the face of Israeli defiance and expansionist ambitions, to employ the Arab resources to serve the common fate and to study the urgent responsibilities in facing the future.

The two sides condemn the continued Israeli aggression against the Arab nation. They also strongly condemn the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon. The two sides stressed the need for the Palestinian people to exercise their right to struggle to liberate their usurped land. They stressed their support for the PLO as the sole legitmate representative of the Palestinian Arab people in its struggle for liberation and return and the right to self-determination, including the right to establish a Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

The two sides stand firmly against any attempt to relinquish the Palestinian national rights. They adhere to the necessity to liberate all the occupied Arab territory. The two sides hail the steadfastness and struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territory. They strongly denounce all Israeli methods of repression and terrorism and call for pooling all the military, political and economic resources of the Arab nation for the battle of liberation and for the future.

The Libyan Arab side expressed its appreciation of Jordan's steadfastness and shouldering of its pan-Arab responsibilities. The Jordanian side expressed its appreciation of the role played by the Libyan Jamahiriyah in the Arab liberation movement.

During the visit the two sides reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries. They expressed their satisfaction with the continued development of their cooperation in relations. They agreed to broaden this cooperation to strengthen the fraternal bonds between their peoples in various fields. They also agreed to continue contacts to achieve these aims.

During this visit two agreements were signed. The first agreement provides for economic, technical and scientific cooperation and the second provides for cultural cooperation.

Prime Minister Badran extended an invitation to His Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, chairman of the General People's Committee, and to Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign affairs secretary, to visit the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The invitation was accepted. The date of the visit will be set later.

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN061343Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Mahmud Riyad, Arab League secretary general, has stressed that only through Arab solidarity and joint action can the Arab nation face Israel.

In a statement to journalists on his arrival in Amman before noon today, Mahmud Riyad said that his tour comes as a result of the decision adopted by the Arab foreign ministers. This decision calls for the convening of an Arab summit conference with the aim of consulting and working and to achieve Arab solidarity. He affirmed the need for attaining a unified background and a single clear concept of the meaning of Arab solidarity and joint Arab action. He said: The Arab nation is facing unprecedented ard acute problems.

He pointed out Israel's denial and rejection of the Security Council's resolutions which stipulate Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, thus challenging international norms and laws as well as world public opinion. During his visit to Jordan, Riyad will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and several senior officials for consultations. They will also exchange viewpoints and opinions.

Riyad was received at Amman airport by 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of information and acting minister of state for foreign affairs; Sulayman 'Arar, minister of interior; several Arab ambassadors in Amman; the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; the Amman governor; and the chief of the police department.

Received by Husayn

JN061512Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 6 April--His Majesty King Husayn received Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyadh in the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. Riyad reviewed for his majesty the results of his current tour and means to strengthen the Arab stand. Riyad was briefed on the working program proposed by the Jordanian Government, which will be submitted to the summit conference that His Majesty King Husayn called for.

It is worth noting that the Jordanian working program includes integrated proposals to organize political and economic aspects, to build intrinsic Arab force, to set up joint establishments to organize Arab relations and to call for adopting a unified Arab stand under these delicate current circumstances.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court His Excellency ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf and 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of information and acting minister of state for foreign affairs.

Received by Acting Premier

JN061513Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 6 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 6 April--Dr 'Abd as-Salam al-Majali, acting prime minister, today reviewed with Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad the current Arab situation and matters pertaining to Arab solidarity.

ENVOYS TO BEGIN VISITING ARAB COUNTRIES 8 APRIL

JN070843Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Apr 78 pp 1, 11 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's envoys will begin their tours of various Arab capitals tomorrow. The envoys will convey messages from His Majesty King Husayn to his Arab brothers, kings and presidents, pertaining to the agenda proposed by Jordan for the Arab summit conference which Jordan has called for to draw up a comprehensive plan for Arab action to confront the circumstances and dangers menacing the Arab nation.

Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs, will leave Amman tomorrow for the Arab countries in Africa. Sulayman 'Arar, interior minister, will leave Amman the day after tomorrow for Iraq, the YAR and the PDRY to convey His Majesty King Husayn's messages to the leaders of those countries.

LONDON AD-DUSTUR REPORTS DEMONSTRATIONS IN AMMAN

JN031320Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1238 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] London, 3 April--Popular demonstrations were staged in the Jordanian capital of Amman recently in denunciation of the stand of the Syrian regime toward the Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon. The magazine AD-DUSTUR reports in its issue here today that the Jordanian authorities sent police and army forces to disperse the demonstrators by force and arrested dozens of Arab citizens.

ISRAELI PLAN TO WITHDRAW FROM SOUTH REPORTED

NC0708015Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 7 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The Israeli forces will start withdrawing from Lebanon on 11 April. This was stated by a UN spokesman last night. He said that the Israeli forces' preliminary withdrawal from southern Lebanon will take place in two stages, on 11 and 14 April. The spokesman added that the Israeli Chief of Staff Gen Mordekhay Gur submitted the plan on this preliminary withdrawal to UN forces coordinator Gen Ensio Siilasvuo, who is now in Israel. UN reports say that this withdrawal conflicts with the aim of the comprehensive and immediate withdrawal called for in UN Security Council Resolution 425.

According to a UN report last night, the UN secretary general had urged Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to speed up the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from southern Lebanon. A UN spokesman has stated that Dr Waldheim is particularly interested in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425 related to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces. He added that Waldheim is in constant touch with the Israeli authorities in this respect and that he has addressed a personal letter to Menahem Begin urging him again to speed up the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425. The UN spokesman added that Waldheim hopes for an early and positive action by Israel and that circumstances will soon prevail enabling the UNIFIL to fully implement its mandate. He added that building up of this force and its deployment are continuing. He also said that the UN force is effectively proving itself in the area of operations.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS MEET WITH AMBASSADORS

NC0613045Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus today met with British Ambassador in Lebanon Peter Wakefield. Wakefield said that the discussions dealt with the question of southern Lebanon and the stationing of UN forces in the area. Asked if the discussions dealt with the question of increasing the size of the UN forces, the British ambassador said: We discussed this matter in general terms. Asked if the Israeli withdrawal will be completed by the end of this month, the ambassador said: Yes, I hope so.

Minister Butrus then met with the Yugoslav ambassador in Lebanon, who said that they discussed bilateral relations and current Middle East issues. The Yugoslav ambassador ruled out the participation of Yugoslav forces in the UN forces in Lebanon. Minister Butrus said that he discussed with the British and Yugoslav ambassadors matters connected with the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry secretary general, Shaykh Najib ad-Dahdah, has continued his consultations with certain ambassadors on the UN General Assembly session. He met with the PRC ambassador in Lebanon. He then met with the Kuwaiti ambassador, who said after the meeting that his visit was at the request of the Foreign Ministry secretary general. The meeting was held to review the current situation in general, to discuss the UN forces in particular and to consult on certain relevant matters. The Kuwaiti ambassador also said that 40 Kuwaiti vehicles had arrived in Beirut this morning, bringing foodstuffs from Kuwait to Lebanon. The foodstuffs were received by the higher relief committee.

The Foreign Ministry secretary general then met with the Soviet ambassador, who said after the meeting that he and Ad-Dahdah discussed general subjects. He added: we also discussed the question of the Israeli aggression. He said that the Soviet Union defined its stand on the aggression during the UN Security Council meeting. It denounced the Israeli operations on Lebanese territory. The Soviet ambassador called for the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon so that the UN forces could take up their positions along the Lebanese-Israeli border.

UNIFIL CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

NC071033Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Apr 78 NC

[Text] UNIFIL Chief of Staff (Col William Callaghan) arrived at Beirut International Airport at 0930 today aboard a special plane. He came from Jerusalem for a brief visit during which he will discuss some administrative and other affairs related to UNIFIL.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS MEETS IRAQI AMBASSADOR

NC061530Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss today met with Iraqi Ambassador to Lebanon Qasim as-Samawi. During their 1-hour meeting, they reviewed developments in the situation in southern Lebanon. The Iraqi ambassador said after the meeting that his visit with Prime Minister al-Huss was a routine meeting during which current issues, particularly those related to the situation in the south and the means to insure the withdrawal of the Zionist enemy from Lebanese territory, were discussed.

INCIDENT BETWEEN CHRISTIANS, UN TROOPS REPORTED

TA061807Y Paris AFP in English 1749 GMT 6 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv, April 6 (AFP)--Israeli military correspondents reported an incident today between United Nations troops from Norway and Christian irregulars in At-Tayyibah, south of the Al-Khardali Bridge over the Litani River. A Norwegian unit of the U.N. Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) had just taken over a disused school for their quarters when they found themselves surrounded by the conservative Christians under Major Sa'ad Haddad, the reports said. The Christians disarmed the Norwegians and forced them to leave, according to correspondents in the sector. The village of At-Tayyibah is located a few kilometers (miles) northwest of the Israeli border.

VOICE OF LEBANON: 8 PALESTINIANS DIE IN CLASH

NC061750Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The correspondent of the Voice of Lebanon in the south reports that an Israeli-Palestinian clash took place in the Hasbayya area at 1400 today. The correspondent adds that the clash is still going on at this moment. Reports indicate that eight Palestinians have been killed in the clash.

Meanwhile, the commander of the gendarme detachment in the south has revealed that new gendarme reinforcements have arrived in Tyre and that relief aid has been distributed to the inhabitants. He also denied that gendarme elements have been withdrawn from checkpoints which have been set up on the main roads to preserve security.

DAMASCUS RALLY HELD ON BA'TH PARTY ANNIVERSARY

JN062016 [Editorial Report JN] Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic at 1608 GMT on 6 April begins a live broadcast from the conference hall of the Syrian General Federation of Labor Unions in Damascus where a speech rally is being organized by the Damascus Branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party on the 31st anniversary of the foundation of the party.

According to the announcer, the rally is attended by the members of the National and Regional commands of the party, the speaker of the People's Assembly, the prime minister, the ministers and the members of the Central Command of the Progressive National Front.

After reporting those in attendance, the announcer outlines the principles of the Ba'th Party and the history of its struggle and then goes on to praise President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership of the party and the country. At 1624 GMT the announcer reports Al-Asad's arrival at the conference hall.

The rally officially begins at 1630 GMT with a speech by Madam Hajir Sadiq on behalf of the popular organizations and professional unions in which she says that the Ba'th Party began as a revolutionary movement against backwardness, ignorance and the forces of aggression. Coming from the masses, she adds, the party will continue to be the people's vanguard in the struggle against all conspiracies and capitulatory solutions.

At 1711 GMT Pawzi al-Kayyali, the spokesman of the Progressive National Front, delivers a speech in which he reviews the history of the party and its cultural and humanitarian mission for the well-being of the Arab world and the whole of mankind. Al-Kayyali says: Our party will continue the struggle against imperialist-Zionist conspiracies which are aimed at usurping our land, enslaving our people and eradicating our national and cultural existence.

Al-Kayyali praises the Syrian Army's role in Lebanon and criticizes Egyptian writers who call for neutralizing Egypt in the Arab conflict with Israel.

At 1730 GMT Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the National and Regional commands of the party and assistant regional secretary, delivers a speech on behalf of the Ba'th Party. Bajbuj begins his speech by reviewing the party's struggle against imperialism and Zionism and for the sake of "a new Arab socialist society--the society of unity, freedom and socialism." He stresses: "Arab unity, in its socialist context, is the only course for our continued existence and the preservation of our dignity."

Speaking about the corrective movement led by President Hafiz al-Asad, Bajbuj says this movement has built economic institutions throughout the country, electrified the countryside, established hospitals and schools, built the great Euphrates Dam, reclaimed vast lands and brought about broader public representation in the government through the Progressive National Front, local councils and the People's Assembly. The corrective movement has also strengthened the army and the armed forces "so they will be constantly ready to fight the war of liberation which began with the October liberation war."

Bajbuj continues: "The liberation of the land cannot be achieved through the radio and press campaign being waged by the outbidders of the Baghdad regime and the defeatists of the As-Sadat regime. The liberation of the land calls for more efforts and more blood to water the trees of Arab dignity and bravery which our ideological army planted and watered with its blood on the summit of Mount Hermon and the Golan Heights."

"Our country's clear position on the question of peace in the Middle East is that this peace cannot be achieved in the region except through complete withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's national rights, including the establishment of their state on their own land. We will continue to stress that the Palestinian people's right to their land and homeland is our primary concern and is the chief aim of our struggle. We would like to reaffirm what we have previously said: that the rights of the Palestinian Arab people come first and our occupied territory on the Golan comes second. This was emphasized by the comrade secretary general of the party, Hafiz al-Asad, in his last speech.

"Sons of our Arab people: From here, from Damascus of Arabism, we call upon the Arab leaders and rulers to throw in all their economic, military and political resources for the sake of the first Arab cause--the question of Palestine--so we can jointly plant the tree of Arab dignity in the soil of Palestine. Without this, there can be no Arab unity, and the Arabs will not be able to occupy their appropriate place under the sun.

"Comrades, from Damascus--the Damascus of steadfastness and challenge, the Damascus of the Ba'th, the Damascus of Hafiz al-Asad--we tell you our brothers in the occupied territory and our people in beloved Jerusalem, As-Sadat has visited our Jerusalem. Guard against the spearheads of the Zionists; Hafiz al-Asad will only visit you as a liberator. [applause] He will visit you to raise the flag of liberated Jerusalem, just as he raised the flag on liberated Al-Qunaytirah.

"Our ideological army, grandsons of Khalid, Kutaybah and 'Udban [names of renowned Moslem commanders], sons and comrades of Hafiz al-Asad, heroes of October, you who have vowed to liberate the land: One day will come when you will be addressing your enemies in the language they understand--the language of the glorious October.

"Comrade secretary general leader of our people's march: In the name of our party, our Progressive National Front, our popular organizations and professional unions, our youth, your beloved vanguards, your sons--the sons of the martyrs--your comrades and sons, our ideological army and all our people, on this great occasion we give you the pledge of Arabism and blood that we will continue to march behind you on the path of reconstruction and liberation. We are confident that your enlightened mind, wise and firm will and far-sightedness will lead us to victory. Immortality to our mission!"

The speech rally ends at 1753 GMT.

TISHRIN CLAIMS ISRAEL PLANTED MINES IN SYRIA

JN070609Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Apr 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on Israel's crime of planting mines inside Syrian territory a few days ago, the newspaper TISHRIN writes: This crime constitutes a serious provocative act by Israel at a critical period in developments in all the Middle East situation. This crime also exacerbates tension and exposes anew the true nature of Israel as an outlaw state of crime and aggression.

The paper adds: This new crime against Syria sheds additional light on the plot which is being perpetrated against Syria aimed at dragging it into war on a decision by Israel and its allies. After Syria denied this opportunity to Israel and its allies in southern Lebanon, Israel carried out its abominable criminal act aimed at provoking Syria and dragging it into a reckless situation or adventure.

TISHRIN adds: Aggression and crime constitute a link in the chain of the provocative acts and pressures being directed by the adversaries of the Arab nation against Syria and all forces which are standing fast in the face of the plot of imposing capitulation on the Arabs. However, Syria is raising the banner of steadfastness, rejecting all forms of capitulation, working seriously to set up a strategic balance with the enemy and preparing the necessary atmosphere so as to impose a just peace on the enemy, and it will never succumb to provocation and will not be dragged into situations that are removed from its strategic and tactical plans.

ALGERIA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON FLN-JAPANESE SOCIALISTS' TALKS

LD062014Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Another joint communique published today is in connection with the talks that have been held between a delegation from the party of the Front of National Liberation [FLN] led by (Slimane Othman), chairman of the party's International Relations Commission, and a Japanese Socialist Party delegation.

The two sides exchanged views on the international situation. They expressed their full operative solidarity with the struggle of the POLISARIO front. The two delegations also support the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO. [words indistinct], the two sides condemned the reactionary regime in South Korea and pronounced themselves in favor of the (?unification) of the Korean people. Finally, the two delegations agreed to hold regular meetings on problems of mutual interest.

LIBYA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING BADRAN'S VISIT

LD061925Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Benghazi, 6 Apr, JANA--The following press communique was issued this afternoon on the visit of brother Mudar Badran, prime minister of the Hashemite Jordanian Kingdom, to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah:

At the invitation of brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, chairman of the General People's Congress of the Jamahiriyah, brother Mudar Badran, prime minister of the Hashemite Jordanian Kingdom, heading a delegation consisting of brother Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs, and a number of officials, paid an official visit to the Jamahiriyah on 4 April 1978 that lasted 3 days.

During this visit brother Mudar Badran handed brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, a message from his brother King Husayn.

During this visit, the Jordanian delegation met with brother officials in the Jamahiriyah, among whom were brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution; brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, chairman of the General People's Congress; brother Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary; and other senior officials.

In an atmosphere of fraternity, talks were held between the Jordanian side, headed by Prime Minister brother Mudar Badran, and the Arab Libyan side, headed by brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, chairman of the General People's Congress. The talks covered the current situation in the Arab world, latest developments in the Arab region, Jordan's concept of the strengthening of a unified Arab nationalist action in the face of expansionist Israeli schemes, the utilization of Arab potential in the service of the common destiny, and urgent moves to face up to the future.

The two sides condemn the continuous Zionist aggression against the Arab nation; they also strongly condemn the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon, which is a link in the chain of the Zionist-colonialist conspiracy aimed at further expansion at the expense of the Arab territories and at eliminating the Palestinian resistance.

The two sides reaffirm the need for the Palestinian people to continue exercising their right to struggle for the liberation of their usurped land. Both sides reaffirm their support for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people, in its struggle for liberation, return and self-determination, including establishing a Palestinian state in Palestine. The two sides firmly stand up against any attempt to relinquish Palestinian national rights and adhere to the need to liberate all the Arab occupied territories.

Both sides greet the steadfastness and struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, and strongly denounce all the Zionist methods of repression and terror. The two sides call for the mobilization of the military, political and economic potential of the Arab nation for the battle of liberation and destiny.

The Arab Libyan side expressed its appreciation for Jordan's steadfastness and for bearing its pan-Arab responsibilities. The Jordanian side expressed its appreciation for the role played by the Great 1 September Revolution in the Arab liberation movement.

During the visit there was also a review of relations between the two fraternal countries. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the continuous growth of the fruitful relations between the two countries and agreed to the need to further expand the scope of this cooperation in a way that consolidates the fraternal ties between the two fraternal peoples in various fields and to continue their contacts in order to realize these objectives.

During this visit two agreements were signed: One is an agreement on economic, technical and scientific cooperation; the second is an agreement on cultural cooperation.

The Jordanian prime minister expressed his appreciation to the Jamahiriyah and its leader for the warm fraternal welcome accorded to him and to the delegation accompanying him. He also extended an invitation to his brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, chairman of the General People's Congress, and to brother Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary, to visit the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The invitation was accepted; a date will be fixed later.

Written in Benghazi, 6 April 1978.

Badran Departs 6 April

LD061926Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] Benghazi, 6 Apr, JANA--Brother Mudar Badran, Jordanian prime minister and minister of defense, this evening left Bennina airport at the end of a 3-day visit to the Jamahiriyah, during which he met with brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and handed him a written message from his brother King Husayn. He also had talks with the brother chairman of the General People's Congress on the current situation in the Arab world. and relations between the two fraternal countries.

The Jordanian prime minister was seen off by brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, chairman of the General People's Congress, and by some secretaries.

DETAILS OF LIBYAN-JORDANIAN AGREEMENTS REPORTED

LD062040Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1915 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] This evening the Jamahiriyah and Jordan signed a general agreement on cooperation in the economic, technical and scientific fields. For the Jamahiriyah it was signed by Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary, and for Jordan by Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs.

The agreement aims at the consolidation and development of cooperation between the two countries, especially in the fields of construction, agriculture, agrarian reform and manpower, and the exchange of teachers and professors in the economic and technical fields.

In confirmation of the national ties between the two Arab peoples an agreement on cultural cooperation for the exchange of scientists, professors, teachers and trainees, cultural and sport delegations was signed. This agreement contributes to the consolidation of cooperation between the radio and television organizations and translation and publishing work in both countries.

PEOPLE'S COMMITTEES' ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS REPORTED

LD070200Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The General Secretariat of the General People's Congress has announced the following resolutions adopted by the various people's committees in regard to the three points referred to them:

I. Regarding provisions pertaining to the ownership of buildings and lands:

A. 182 popular conferences approved what was stated in the speech of the brother colonel; this represents 98.8 percent.

B. Four popular conferences did not approve; this represents 1.82 percent.

Explanatory notes:

1. 47 popular conferences approved compensation for land; this represents 25.27 percent.

2. 17 popular conferences approved compensation for lands purchased, inherited and registered only; this represents 9.14 percent.

3. Only one popular conference decided that land should not be touched.

4. Four popular conferences decided on the materia penalty of confiscating property without payment of compensation instead of imprisonment.

5. 23 popular conferences decided that the number of wives and the size of a family should be taken into consideration.

6. 16 popular conferences approved the transfer of property to children.

II. Regarding military conscription:

A. 184 popular conferences approved what was stated in the speech of the brother colonel; this represents 98.92 percent.

B. Two popular conferences did not approve; this represents 1.08 percent.

III. Regarding support for Syria:

A. Six popular conferences expressed general support.

B. 133 popular conferences expressed conditional support. The conditions for support stipulate:

1. That it enter the war for the liberation of the land;

2. That it abide by the convenants [mawathiq] of the states of steadfastness and confrontation;

3. That it protect the Palestinians and bolster the resistance;

4. That it permit the fedayeen to operate from within Syrian territory;

5. That it allow the armies of the states of steadfastness and confrontation to move inside Syrian territories;

6. That it support the progressive forces in Lebanon;

7. That it withdraw recognition of the UN Security Council resolutions;

8. That it reject the UN emergency forces;

9. That the Libyan leadership participate in the planning and fighting;

10. That Syria be blamed for its negative attitude toward the recent Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon; and

11. That support be confined solely to money and arms in the event of its [Syria's] confirmation of the above points.

C. 40 popular conferences expressed a desire to extend material and military support.

D. Seven popular conferences expressed no support at all.

It should be noted that the popular conference at the Darnah Center has not yet completed the discussion of the topics on its agenda, and consequently its resolutions have not been included in the above resolutions of the popular conferences.

MAURITANIA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FAVORING PALESTINIANS

PA201612Y Paris AFP in French 1622 GMT 19 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, 19 Mar (AFP)--In an official communique released in Nouakchott in the wake of Israel's military intervention in southern Lebanon, the Mauritanian Government makes "an urgent appeal to the entire Arab nation for it to close its ranks for the purpose of fully assuming its solidary and indivisible responsibility toward our brothers, the Palestinian people."

The communique adds that the Mauritanian Government "solemnly" reaffirms Mauritania's "total and unconditional" support for "Palestinian resistance as represented by the Palestinian Liberation Organization and for Lebanon." It also asks "all countries that desire justice and peace" to work in favor of "the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist forces from Lebanese and all other occupied Arab territories and to redouble efforts to obtain the urgent restoration of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights."

SUDAN

FELIX MALLOUM, DELEGATION ARRIVE FOR VISIT

LD052120Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Text] A responsible source belonging to the delegation accompanying Chadian leader Felix Malloum has told SUNA that all of the parties in Chad have adhered to the cease-fire announced in the joint communique of the Sabha talks. The source said that the initiative of President Numayri was (?welcomed) by the Chadian people, who are striving for national unity and to achieve stability.

The source confirmed that a meeting of the parties concerned will be held in Sabha, Libya, in July of this year to continue the talks held there (?earlier) to achieve national unity.

It is understood that Chadian leader Malloum arrived in Khartoum this afternoon on a brief 1-day visit.

TUNISIA

NUMAYRI ENVOY: TUNISIAN-SUDANESE VIEWS IDENTICAL

NC061523Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1431 GMT 6 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Tunis, 6 April--'Izz ad-Din al-Hasan, Sudanese minister of state and President Ja'far Numayri's envoy, who is currently visiting Tunis, has affirmed that he has sensed an identity of Tunisian and Sudanese views on the need to solve African problems with African spirit and means, free from foreign interference.

In a statement he made to MENA, the minister noted that the proposed African summit conference will be held in Khartoum next July. He added that in view of the great responsibility shouldered by the Sudan to make this conference a success, President Numayri decided to send envoys to all the African OAU member states to present the Sudanese viewpoint on the continent's problems, particularly the conflict between Somalia and Eritrea on the one hand and Ethiopia on the other, and the foreign interference in the continent.

He said that Sudan believes that all these problems should be peacefully solved within the context of the African spirit and character.

Speaking about Tunisian-Sudanese relations, the Sudanese envoy said that a Tunisian economic delegation will visit Sudan shortly to discuss the possibility of promoting trade and cultural relations between the two countries, especially since the means for expanding the volume of trade and for exchanging expertise are available between the two countries.

The Sudanese minister of state is due to leave Tunis Friday for Morocco and then for ten other African states in West Africa, carrying messages from President Numayri to the heads of state connected with the subject of convening an emergency African summit conference.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR REPORTS 'LIBERATING' TOWN FROM MOROCCANS

LD032236Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 3 Apr 78 LD

[Summary] A Defense Ministry communique this evening says that units of Saharan resistance succeeded on 31 March in liberating the town of (Bir Lehlu), after a series of brave operations against positions of the Moroccan royal forces which were destroyed one by one.

The retreating Moroccan forces left behind 46 dead and scores of wounded and also military equipment and ammunition.

BRIEFS

ALGERIAN MINISTER RETURNS--Mohamed Amir, minister of labor and vocational training, returned home today at the end of an official visit to the GDR, during which he held talks with senior German officials and particularly with Werner Krolikowski, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. He also held talks with the director of the Confederal Office of the Free German Trade Union Federation. Dr Mohamed Amir's meetings with the German officials cover the good relations between the two countries and the wide fields of cooperation between them. The visit was crowned with the conclusion of a number of important agreements, particularly in the fields of vocational training and the employment of Algerian workers in Germany. The agreements also cover work security and medical care. [Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD]

DPRK OFFICIAL LEAVES ALGERIA--DPRK Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Yi Chong-mok said on leaving Algeria today that he is confident that the consultations between Algeria and the DPRK contribute greatly to understanding problems and bolstering the excellent relations between the two countries. He expressed satisfaction at the results of his visit and the talks he had with the officials of the Algerian Foreign Ministry. During his 5-day visit to Algeria, the DPRK vice minister of foreign affairs met with Algerian Foreign Minister Bouteflika, to whom he delivered a message from DPRK Foreign Minister Ho Tam. [Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD]

SOVIET DELEGATION IN ALGERIA--Today Mohamed Idris Messadia, director of information of the party, received a delegation representing the Soviet committee for Afro-Asian solidarity headed by Aleksandr Dzasokhov, first depty chairman of the committee. Discussions covered the general current situation in the world and the imperialist offensive in Africa and the Middle East. [Text] [Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD]

GDR DELEGATION IN LIBYA--At his general staff headquarters office this morning Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the armed forces, received the GDR military delegation now visiting the Jamahiryah. Discussions covered bilateral relations and ways to better them. [Text] [Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD]

FOREIGN MINISTRY SEES NO VIOLATION OF ARMS PACT

TA070650Y Jerusalem POST in English 7 Apr 78 p 1 TA

[Text] Israel does not believe that its use of U.S.-supplied weapons in the south Lebanon operation was a violation of the Israel-U.S. arms agreement, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

The terms of the agreement, which da s from 1952, have never been published, the spokesman said. "Without going into its ms, I can say we do not consider our use of the weapons was a violation of the cont t," he said.

MILITARY SOURCES CONFIRM WITHDRAWAL PLAN SUBMITTED

TA062210Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2145 GMT 6 Apr 78 TA

[From the Midnight Newsreel]

[Excerpts] Military sources in Israel confirmed a short while ago that Chief of Staff Lt Gen Mordekhay Gur submitted a plan for withdrawal from southern Lebanon to the coordinator of the UN forces in the region, Gen Ensio Siilasvuo. The military sources say that this withdrawal plan includes two initial phases: On 11 April the eastern front will be evacuated and on 14 April the western front. Further details about this were reported by the spokesman of the UN forces in the Middle East this evening. The French news agency carried this report and we will bring you more details from the studio.

AFP Reports Plan

TA062045Y Paris AFP in English 2010 GMT 6 Apr 78 TA

[Excerpts] Jerusalem, April 6 AFP--Israeli Chief of Staff General Mordekhay Gur today presented plans for the initial withdrawal of Israeli troops from south Lebanon to United Nations forces commander Ensio Siilasvuo, a U.N. spokesman announced here.

The first stage will cover the Marj 'Uyun-Al-'Urqub area and include the Al-Khardali bridge and a number of villages. Withdrawal in that area excludes the villages of Marj 'Uyun, Al-Khiyam and Dayr Minas. West of Marj 'Uyun the pull-back is to be approximately two to three kms (one to two miles) deep and about seven kms (four miles) deep between Kawkaba and Shab'a.

In the second phase, the withdrawal will cover an area from a point on the Litani River two kms (one mile) west of (Aqaya) bridge to a point one km (one-half mile) west of Dayr Minas. The depth of that pull-back is to be approximately five to six kms and includes the villages of At-Tayyibah, Al-Qantarah, Ghanduriyah and [name indistinct] as well as the main road between At-Tayyibai and Ghanduriyah.

DETAILS ON LEBANON CLASH INVOLVING IDF SOLDIERS

TA062310Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2145 GMT 6 Apr 78 TA

[From the Midnight Newsreel]

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Mordekhay Gur today appointed an investigating officer to check the circumstances of the incident in which six IDF soldiers and a civilian crossed the line of our forces in southern Lebanon. As announced by an IDF spokesman at noon, three soldiers were fatally wounded, two returned to our territory and two are missing. Further details about the circumstances of the incident are reported by our correspondent:

Six IDF soldiers set out from Biranit on Wednesday in a civilian-owned van with the inital objective of reaching a tractor located in that area of southern Lebanon. At a certain point it seems that the six turned the short drive into a longer journey. In the area of Tibnin they met a civilian known to one of them. During the journey they stopped at various historic sites in southern Lebanon.

When they wanted to return to Israel's territory they decided to move west in the direction of the Tyre coastal plain and then turn south toward Rosh Haniqra. At about 1630 [1430 GMT] the seven stopped at an IDF roadblock on a little-used road. After they talked with the people at the roadblock they continued on their way. About a kilometer after the roadblock they stopped at a loquat plantation and began eating fruit.

They were talking with several children in the place when two terrorists appeared and began talking to them in English, trying to persuade them to accompany them to an adjacent camp. A few more terrorists turned up and after one of them fired a shot, the van driver began to drive away. Three of the passengers were killed by the terrorists' fire.

The driver continued along the Tyre road, and then, fearing a collision with an approaching vehicle, he moved aside onto an unpaved road where the van bogged down and stopped. The remaining four left the vehicle and continued on foot in the direction of our forces. The driver of the vehicle, who suffered from breathing difficulties during the walk, wanted to remain in the area. The three others continued walking, being fired at from time to time. Another soldier stopped and remained in the area and the remaining two, a soldier and the civilian, continued, under fire, until they reached our lines.

After submitting the two to a short inquiry, the IDF forces set out to comb the area for the missing. UN forces were also brought into the search. The search was increased at dawn and more UN soldiers were sent to search the area that the two described.

The chief of staff and the commander of the northern command, Maj Gen Avigdor Ben-Gal personally supervised the searches in coordination with the UN forces in the area. The chief of staff appointed an investigation officer who will examine the circumstances of the incident. According to the order of Lt Gen Mordekhay Gur, the region of southern Lebanon was closed to tours and journeys. The civilian who joined the six soldiers and was, as already mentioned, one of the two who returned to our territory, was detained. For the time being there is no clear information regarding the fate of the two missing soldiers.

PUBLIC OPINION POLL: U.S. SUPPORTING ARABS

TA061219Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 6 Apr 78 p 4 TA

[Summary] In a nationwide public opinion poll, conducted by the PORI Institute at the request of HA'AREZ, 21.4 percent of those polled believe that the United States is more supportive of the Arab states than of Israel. This is the highest percentage ever recorded to hold this view. Of those polled 36.9 percent said that U.S. support is extended equally to both sides. This view has been expressed in a similar percentage for the past 2 years.

Those who believe that the United States supports neither side, but has only its own interest at heart amounted to 14.7 percent. The remaining 8.8 percent had no opinion on the matter.

Those who expressed the belief that the United States is more supportive of the Arab states come from the more advanced strata of the population, from the point of view of educational, professional and income levels.

The poll included 1,200 men and women, who were questioned in their homes.

Another HA'AREZ-requested PORI poll revealed that 56 percent of those questioned believe that the Government of Israel is doing all it can for peace. Those who believe that the government is not doing everything for peace amounted to 18 percent. Those who believe that the government is doing "more or less" all it can amount to 16.2 percent, while 3.2 percent believe peace does not depend on Israel. Some 6.6 percent said they do not know whether the government is doing all it can.

Just before As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem only 44 percent thought the government was doing all it could for peace, while prior to the Yom Kippur war that belief was held by 60 percent.

DAYAN DENIES HE WILL VISIT EGYPT, UNITED STATES

TA061102Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1032 GMT 6 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has denied reports of impending visits to the United States or to Egypt. The foreign minister's next planned visit, his ministry said today, is in May when he will go to several Scandinavian countries. Our political correspondent, Yosi Ia'or, reports that, at the same time, the foreign minister will visit London to take part in the 30th anniversary celebrations initiated by the Jewish community there.

More from the Foreign Ministry: In reaction to the reports that Dayan asked President Ceausescu to initiate a meeting between him and Syrian representatives, it was made plain in the capital this morning that the foreign minister did not initiate such an appeal. Dayan only said that Israel would welcome any direct contact with any Arab country, even if it took place in Bucharest.

PERES LEAVES FOR U.S. VISIT, WILL MEET OFFICIALS

TA061239Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Apr 78 p 1 TA

[Text] (ITIM) MK Shim'on Peres left this morning for a 10-day visit in the United States, on a mission for the United Jewish Appeal and for the development bonds project.

Peres said at Ben-Gurion Airport that he will spend 1 day in Washington, where he will meet with the President's national security adviser, Prof Zbigniew Brzezinski, with Vice President Walter Mondale, with Dr Henry Kissinger and with various senators. He will also spend 1 day in Montreal, on behalf of Ben-Gurion University. Peres will return on 18 April to take part in the election of the state president by the Knesset.

EHRLICH DISCUSSES FINANCE, OFFICERS' LETTER

TA061108Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1054 GMT 6 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich, now speaking to students at Bar Ilan University, has said that from July 1977 to March 1978, the cabinet poured into the economy, that is, it printed, 9.1 billion Israeli pounds. Ehrlich said that this was as promised by the cabinet when it was elected in May. On another issue, the finance minister was asked about and defended his remark that the letter from the 300 officers to the prime minister smelled of a putsch. Anyone who wants to demonstrate against the cabinet, the finance minister said, can demonstrate as a citizen and not as an officer. There are also officers with different views and nobody knows where such behavior will take us.

JERUSALEM POST COMMENTS ON S. LEBANON SITUATION

TA070805Y Jerusalem POST Magazine in English 7 Apr 78 p 4 TA

[By Anan Safadi]

[Excerpts] Virtually no one on either side of the Israeli-Lebanon border had serious doubts that the Israel Defence Forces could carry out the military side of the "Litani campaign" swiftly and effectively. For the well-oiled machine that is the Israeli army, the action was no more complicated than a large-scale manoeuvre.

Even those in the Palestine Liberation Organization who think rationally do not really believe their own claims of "victory" south of the Litani. Those claims are based on the fact that it took Israel the same number of days--six--to defeat the PLO in 1978 as it took to crush the armies of Egypt, Syria and Jordan in 1967.

Why, then, did Israel eschew the blitzkreig tactic--it could have mounted a massive helicopter-airborne strike which would have cut off many more of the terrorists south of the Litani--and adopt a "go-slow" form of attack? This uncharacteristic behaviour appears to have been adopted to avoid excessive civilian casualties in an area densely populated with Lebanese villagers; to keep Israeli losses to a minimum; and to prevent a confrontation with the 30,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon, who have been policing that country up to--and not beyond--an Israel-imposed "red line" just north of the Litani.

Despite the provocation of last month's murderous attack on the coastal road, Israel's motive was clearly not revenge against the PLO. The IDF was not sent into action to destroy the terror roof-organization, or even to extract the heaviest possible toll in blood from it. Rather, as government leaders have indicated, the operation was designed to carve out a PLO-free security belt in the 1,200 sq. km. between Israel's northern border and the Litani River.

In a military sense, the PLO has emerged neither as the victor nor as the vanquished south of the Litani. It certainly lost several hundred fighting men, large quantities of supplies, and its only base of military operations adjacent to Israel's borders. But Israel's cautious approach enabled the terrorists to reach their second-line positions north of the river without serious losses, and with their basic infrastructure virtually intact.

Ironically, the retreat has enhanced the image of the PLO in many places, particularly among the Palestinians. It was only after the Litani thrust that the terrorists began unleashing Katyushas over the heads of the entrenched Israeli forces, onto Israeli settlements in the northern Galilee. They have been able to do this with little fear of retaliation, because they are now in an area "protected" by the Syrians, into which Israel has expressed a reluctance to move at this time.

The extent to which UNIFIL has been dealing with the PLO in its efforts to consolidate the cease-fire has certainly not diminished the organization's standing.

The real test of the effectiveness of the Litani operation is a political one, as Chief-of-Staff Rav-Aluf Mordekhay Gur commented last week. Only time will tell whether Gur's last major operation before his retirement this month will be recorded as a triumph or not.

To put it simply, the campaign will be successful if the PLO is kept out of southern Lebanon, and a cordon sanitaire is established on the only current "hot front." But if the PLO is allowed to return to the area, and if the UN is unable to control the activities of an "irregular force" there, the thrust will be evaluated less favourably.

The vanguards of UNIFIL--the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon--now taking up positions in Lebanon are there to allay fears on both sides. For Israel, the Swedish, Iranian, Norwegian and French forces are there to ensure that the area does not become a terrorist base once again. For the Lebanese, the blue-helmeted peace-keepers' presence means that Israel is not there to stay.

UNIFIL is the fourth UN force to be stationed on the Israeli-Arab front lines. The others are UNTSO, UNEF and UNDOF, which have all been more or less effective in policing cease-fires between conventional regular armies. It still has to be seen whether the new force will be able to police the irregular armed groupings of the PLO.

Judging from Gur's statements, Israel expects the UN's task to be the banning of the PLO from three main areas: the towns of An-Nabatiyah and Hasbayya north of the Litani; the Tyre sector, including the huge refugee camps at Ar-Rashidiyah and Burj ash-Shamali; and the Litani bridges of Qasimiyah, north of Tyre, 'Aqiyah in the central sector, and Al-Khardali in the east. The rest of southern Lebanon is to be policed by forces of the Lebanese Government.

It was initially anticipated that the Lebanese forces would, in the transitional stage, be represented by a local south Lebanon army organized by Phalangist Major Sa'd Haddad. But both the credibility and the local standing of the Christian militiamen, who defended their tiny south Lebanon enclave for almost two years, have plummeted since Israel moved in.

Residents remaining in the area last week told the Jerusalem POST that Haddad's men had gone on a rampage, taking revenge against their supposed and actual foes with equal vigour. There have been reports of looting, of the ransacking of villages, of the terrorizing of villagers. No wonder that Gur, in his recent TV interview, went out of his way to make a "formal" appeal to south Lebanese refugees to return to their, homes, "and not to fear Haddad's men, who have been placed under our control."

Israel seems to have been seeking to gain political support from Christendom, by stressing that it had come to the aid of a beleaguered Christian minority. But by shifting from its former emphasis on cooperating with all the residents of south Lebanon, it has created an uneasiness--and not only in the immediate area concerned. These pro-Christian statements have made Israel efforts to reassure the Shi'ites even more difficult.

Nor have appreciable political gains accrued from the Israeli position. The Americans, for instance, do not see the conflict inside Lebanon as having a religious basis, but view it as the product of Palestinian intrigues in the country. And they are quick to point out that the PLO is not an exclusively Moslem body, noting that the PFLP's George Habash is a Christian.

The Shi'ite Moslems argue that they, as much as their Christian neighbours, were subjected to PLO terror and PLO rule, imposed by an armed force of 6,000 men. But they wonder whether Israel's open identification with the Christians has not impeded the growth of local resistance to the PLO.

It is in Israel's interest to stabilize the situation in south Lebanon, as it is in Beirut's. And unless Damascus is being misread, the Syrians have similar intentions on their Lebanese "right flank." They are probably siding with the peace-seekers not because they want to see a settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict, but because they do not see the present time as appropriate for armed conflict.

"Let them all know that it is only Syria which decides the time and place of war," said AL-BA'ATH, the organ of Syria's ruling party this week while lashing back at Egypt's, Iraq's and presumably the PLO's criticism of Syria's failure to combat Israel in southern Lebanon.

"They want to drag Syria into a war whose terms were not set by Damascus," said the journal, which implied that Syria might prefer a settlement in southern Lebanon that could still lead to a possible dialogue with Israel--even though indirectly.

Would such a development be one of the political gains of the south Lebanese operation? Again, time will tell.

MODA'I ON FUTURE OF GULF OF SUEZ OIL WELLS

TA060641Y Jerusalem POST in English 6 Apr 78 p 9 TA

[By Asher Wallfish]

[Text] Israel's discovery of oil in the Gulf of Suez, and its subsequent exploitation of that oil, give it the right to a share of the resource under international laws and practices in the oil prospecting and exploitation industry, even if it does not keep sovereignty over the Gulf of Suez.

Yizhaq Moda'i, minister of energy and infrastructure, made this claim in the Knesset yesterday, replying to the plenum debate on the work of his ministry over the budgetary year.

The reference was to the new wells found and now being tapped, under the name of Alma II near At-Tur in the sea off the western Sinai coast.

Since oil and gas has been found, the minister said, potential investors have shown a lot more interest, and this is already bearing fruit.

Moda'i suggested that after peace is signed between Egypt and Israel, the Sinai could become a center for the petrochemical industry, and a site for mixing various grades of oil coming from the area as well as from the Persian Gulf.

Joint nuclear powerplants could be built in Sinai to serve Israel and Egypt, perhaps in combination with large desalination units.

Moda'i claimed that the consumer prices for various types of energy in Israel were cheaper than in most countries of Europe.

ALLEGED SOVIET SPY INTERROGATED, CONFESSES, DIES

LD061122Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Teheran newspapers today reported the arrest of a Soviet spy in Iran. RASTAKHIZ says that at 2100 on 27 March security officials observed Alma Shamirov (Ibrahimuqli), a Russian employee of the Iranian-Soviet Transport Company, get out of a (?black) car registration No 3233-Teheran [number indistinct], meet another personand hand that person a package. The Russian employee immediately left the scene in the same car, which was also occupied by two Soviet Embassy staff.

RASTAKHIZ also says that the security officials immediately arrested the person who received the package at (?his home), located in the neighborhood of the scene. Following preliminary investigation it transpires that he was a former brigadier, Ali-Akbar Darakhshani. The newspaper AYANDEGAN also says that during interrogation Darakhshani confessed he had been in contact with Soviet Embassy agents for many years, selling them intelligence material. At his last meeting he had intended to receive his monthly allowance. Darakhshani, who was 85 when he died, was suddenly taken ill after making these remarks and he was immediately rushed to an army hospital. Treatment proved ineffective and he died. After an autopsy the coroner has given the cause of Ali-Akbar Darakhshani's death as a cardiac arrest and intense cardiac inflamation.

Darakhshani was for a period commander of the Tabriz 3d Division in 1945 and was sentenced to life imprisonment with labor by a court martial for collaboration with rebels and failing to carry out orders issued from the capital during the events of that year. He later received an imperial reprieve and was released.

BRIEFS

2D RASTAKHIZ COMMITTEE FOUNDED--After the setting up of the 1st National Action Committee in Reza'iyeh, the 2d National Action Committee has been founded in Piranshahr. According to our correspondent's dispatch, after the Iranian people's Rastakhiz Party Progressive Wing issued the statement, a National Action Committee was set up in Piranshahr. In its first session the committee issued a statement. The statement reads: Piranshahr's National Action Committee is sufficiently prepared to guide and counsel the people of the region and is setting up an investigatory subcommittee in order to prevent and neutralize every inappropriate action. Any duped individuals who have lost their way can voice their demands and proposals within this committee and receive the reply needed. [Text] [Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 5 Apr 78 LD]

INDIA

JAGJIVAN RAM: INDIA OPPOSES NEUTRON BOMB

BK0611llY Delhi ISI in English 0848 GMT 6 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The Government of India will reiterate their view that nuclear weapons should be completely eliminated from the arsenals of nations at forthcoming session of the UN General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which is scheduled to be held in May-June 1978.

This was stated by Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram in a written reply to a question by Samar Guha regarding the explosion and destruction capability of neutrom bombs, in the Lok Sabha on April 5.

Jagjivan Ram said that the government were aware of the basic design aspects and explosion characteristics of the neutron bomb. He said "The government take the view that the production and deployment of neutron bombs would have adverse repercussions on the climate for international detente efforts, for disarmament and even the quest for an agreement on limiting strategic weapons."

INDIA WILL COOPERATE IN PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY

BK0611l3Y Delhi ISI in English 0846 GMT 6 Apr 78 BK

[Text] Nine countries of Asia, Africa and Latin American have sought India's cooperation for developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Prime Minister Morarji Desai told the Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question by D. B. Chandra Gowda on April 5 that the countries were: Algeria, Colombia, Guyana, Madagascar, Peru, Mexico, Venezuela, Indonesia and Vietnam. He added that India is willing to cooperate with friendly countries in peaceful uses of atomic energy. Bilateral agreements for cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy have been entered into with Afghanistan, Argentiana, Belgium, Bangladesh, Canada, Czechoslovakia, the Arab Republic of Egypt, France, the FRG, the GDR, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Poland, Romanian, the United States and the USSR.

CONGRESS-I EXECUTIVE DISCUSSES GANDHI ARREST RUMORS

BK070916Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Congress-I Parliamentary Party which met in New Delhi this morning discussed the current rumors that the home minister is contemplating getting Mrs Indira Gandhi arrested. It has been decided that the issue should be raised in parliament at an appropriate time in an appropriate manner. Meanwhile, they requested the working committee of the party to take up the issue.

Briefing newsmen, the secretary, Mr P. Venkatsubbaiya, said the party's strength in the Lok Sabha has gone up to 71. This will entitle the Congress-I group to be the main opposition in the Lok Sabha, replacing the party led by Mr Chavan whose strength has now been reduced to 68. The executive, however, has decided to leave it to the speaker to make a final announcement in this regard.

JANATA PARTY TO PROMOTE COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP

BK061558Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The five top leaders of the Janata Party who met in New Delhi last night will hold discussions among themselves from time to time on problems that may arise before the party and the government.

Talking to newsmen today, the party general secretary, Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, said that the Janata Party believes in collective leadership. A meeting of Mr Chandra Shekher, Mr Morarji Desai, Mr Charan Singh, Mr Jagjivan Ram and Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who are the acknowledged leaders, is a mechanism of collective leadership. The Janata Party, he added, is not like the Congress-I which believes only in one leader of the party and the nation. Replying to questions, Mr Hegde said their deliberations will certainly help in removing differences. He added if perfect understanding at the top is reached, there will hardly be scope for any differences at the lower levels.

INDO-SOVIET PLANNING GROUP TALKS BEGIN 5 APRIL

BK061059Y Delhi ISI in English 0856 GMT 6 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The seven-day talks of the Indo-Soviet study group on planning started in New Delhi on 5 April. The Soviet delegation is led by Professor A.V. Bachurin, vice chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR, and the leader of Indian delegation is Professor Raj Krishna, member of the Planning Commission.

In his welcome address, Doctor D.T. Lakdawala, deputy chairman of the Planning Commission, said that the strength of Indo-Soviet relations lay in genuine mutual respect between the two countries with different socio-economic systems but which had become partners in each other's national endeavours. He said that our countries had shown ways to cooperate with each other with dignity and good will. Doctor Lakdawala said that during the last 25 years Indo-Soviet trade had served as a powerful instrument for promotion of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation and for development of the Indian economy. He said that there were more than 50 important projects in India which were symbols of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Doctor Lakdawala explained strategy of the new five-year plan and expressed hope that the exchange of experiences and knowledge by this "planning group" would make a valuable contribution to the process of planning in our country.

Leader of the Soviet delegation Professor A.V. Bachurin said that they would be glad to exchange their experiences in planning. He said that the Soviet Union had very wide economic relations with India. He added that there were a big scope of cooperation in the field of planning between the two countries. Professor Bachurin underlined the importance of planning in the USSR and said that their experts and Gosplan experts would take part in drawing up a long term cooperation programme between the two countries. Though the two countries have different socio-economic systems, he added, we still have common problems which could be worked out on a reciprocal basis. He disclosed that in the Soviet Union, they were discussing many improvements in planning linked with topical and social problems which they would be glad to share with India.

Objectives of the planning group are: economic forecasting, methodology of annual middle term and long term planning, formulation of projects and programmes, methods of control and evaluation of planned programmes and projects, planning of material supply and exchange of published reports and materials.

INDIA, USSR DISCUSS COOPERATION IN MINERAL PROCESSING

BK061505Y Delhi ISI in English 1437 GMT 6 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The Lok Sabha was informed on April 6 by the minister of state for steel and mines, Karia Munda, that the Steel Authority of India Limited had completed preliminary discussions with the USSR authorities to explore the possibilities of cooperation for supplementing India's own efforts in the field of iron ore and manganese ore mining and processing.

Kuria Munda further informed the house that technical cooperation with the USSR was proposed in the following areas:

A. Development of iron ore and beneficiation techniques through selective removal of gangue materials;

B. Development of beneficiation methods for phosphatic iron ore;

C. Development of beneficiation techniques by electrostatic separation coupled with chemical treatment of minerals;

D. Utilisation of mineral wastes through agglomeration of such techniques;

E. Development of new beneficiation processes, development of flow sheets, etcetera;

F. Establishment of norms for planning and designing of open cast mines;

G. Beneficiation of high phosphorus manganese ores and utilisation of beneficiated manganese ore fines in the steel plants after agglomeration, etcetera.

TALKS WITH STRIKING SPACE CENTER EMPLOYEES RULED OUT

BK070956Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The prime minister has firmly ruled out the possibility of any talks with the striking workers of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center at Thumba in Kerala until they go back to work.

Mr Morarji Desai told the Lok Sabha today that whatever may be the rights or wrongs of their case, the employees have no right to resort to violence. That cannot be condoned. He categorically denied that the military has been called in to help control the situation at the center.

The prime minister was replying to a calling-attention notice by Mr Ramgopal Reddy of the Congress-I on the indefinite (?tools) down strike by the workers at the center paralyzing its functioning. He said it is reprehensible that the employees have lost sight of their obligation to the center in order to force the authorities to concede to their demands. He could not but strongly condemn the attitude of the employees, and he made it clear that there can be no submission to such tactics of violence and wanton injuries to public property.

DEPARTMENT OF SPACE ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT

BK051549Y Delhi ISI in English 1506 GMT 5 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The activities of the Department of Space in 1977-78 were aimed at making use of the earlier achievements in application oriented projects in securing tangible socio-economic benefits for the nation. Listing the main programmes, the annual report of the department for 1977-78 says that progress was made in the Satellite Telecommunications Experiments Project (STEP), the Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE), the Satellite for Earth Observations (SEO), the Indian National Satellite (INSAT) Programme and the maturation of development work in remote sensing.

A significant development in the space technology has been the flight testing of a guided and attitude controlled RH-560 sounding rocket.

Under the Rohini Sounding Rockets (RSR) Programme a series of sounding rockets are developed and produced for meteorological soundings and for the scientific investigation of the upper atmosphere. The larger of the sounding rockets are also used as flight test vehicles for technological payloads and subsystems. Four types of sounding rockets are currently operational. Three more are under development. The RH-560s and the RH-200 plus the RH-125 systems are undergoing qualification tests and are expected to be operational by the middle of 1978.

Through an agreement with the French firm Societe Europeene de Propulsion (SEP), ISRD [Indian Space Research Organisation] engineers have been participating in the Viking rocket engine development programme and the European launch vehicle "Ariane." By this means the technology and know-how are being acquired for the development of testing of high thrust liquid rocket motors. This is being paid for in part by the export of high quality pressure transducers from the pressure transducer unit located in the campus of the National Aeronautical Laboratory, Bangalore.

In 1977-78 the subsystems of the Satellite Launch Vehicle [SLV] reached the qualification phase after ground and flight evaluation of the prototype units. The SLV is a four stage solid propellant vehicle designed to place a technological satellite weighing 40 kg in a near earth orbit. Most of the subsystems for the SLV have been developed and are undergoing ground and flight qualification. The subsystems readiness is geared towards achieving the first orbital launch towards the middle of 1979. The experimental flight of the complete vehicle is scheduled for September 1978.

In furtherance of the objective of using space technology for socio-economic benefits, the government has approved the establishment of the Indian National Satellite (NSAT) system in the first quarter of 1981. Cutting across the traditional jurisdictional boundaries of ministries and departments of the government, it is a multi-purpose satellite system for telecommunications and meteorology and has capability for nation-wide direct TV broadcast to community TV receivers in rural areas. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States of America will provide launch services for INSAT-1.

NASA has also been selected to provide the backup launch vehicle, a Delta 3910 expendable vehicle for the first INSAT-1.

The efficacy of satellite communication using a jeep mounted emergency communication terminal to provide reliable communication during emergencies was demonstrated recently when the terminal was used to provide a telephone link with Vijayawada soon after the devastating cyclone in Andhra Pradesh. The experience in satellite based communications gained during the SITE [Satellite Instructional Television Experiment] programme has been directly used in STEP. STEP is a joint ISRO-P and T [Posts and Telegraphs] project in which, under an agreement with the space agencies of France and West Germany, the Franco-German "Symphonie" satellite has been made available to ISRO until mid-1979 for conducting experiments in telephony and programme transmission for the radio network. It is also used for transmitting TV programmes to major earth stations in the national TV hookup.

India's second satellite, the Satellite for Earth Observation (SEO), is approaching readiness and will be launched soon from the Soviet Union. SED will add a new dimension to the country's capabilities in obtaining and using remotely sensed information and in meteorological data collection. SED will generate imagery with a resolution down to 1 km. Special efforts are being made to ensure that this imagery becomes usable by national developmental agencies as quickly as possible.

The Indian project APPLE envisages the development, launch, orbital operations and utilisation of a 161 kg three axis stabilised geostationary communication spacecraft during 1977-82. In the APPLE an Indian designed and built experimental synchronous communication satellite will be flown on the third developmental flight of the "Arianez launch vehicle of the European Space Agency in May 1980. The satellite is intended to be a precursor of an indigenous second generation INSAT-2 to be built in India in the coming decade. This important project will provide Indian scientists and engineers with valuable experience in the design, fabrication, testing, qualification in orbit, manoeuvre and mission management of communications satellites. The spacecraft is taking shape as per schedule. The structural and thermal models of the spacecraft are being fabricated.

PAKISTAN

BHUTTO SUPPORTERS ARRESTED IN LAHORE 6 APRIL

BK070622Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0615 GMT 7 Apr 78 BK

[Text] Lahore, April 7 (AFP)--Around 35 people were arrested last night in Lahore in connection with inquiries into a terrorist plot to blow up the High Court, a source close to the Punjab police reported today.

The source said all the arrested were supporters of former Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, sentenced to death last month.

Meanwhile, authorities in this Punjab capital officially confirmed that three members of Mr Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) were arrested yesterday in the middle of Lahore while carrying 90 sticks of dynamite, 190 detonators and two grenades.

Observers here estimated most of Lahore's more active PPP members were now in custody or fleeing the city.

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